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THE

UNION AGRICULTURIST

AND

Western Prairie Farmer,

DEVOTED TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF

WESTERN AGRICULTURE.

Edited by the Corresponding Secretary.

VOLUME I.

CHICAGO.

Published by the Union Agricultural Society.

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The Union Agriculturist,

AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

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THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, EDITED BY THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, THE ORGAN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TERMS.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance.* Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid.* Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1,50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance.* Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

SUBSCRIPTIONS IN ADVANCE.—Many letters from subscribers, speak of those who would like to subscribe, but "have not the money just now." It would give us great pleasure to accommodate many of these friends, but we must have a rule either on the cash or credit system. It will not answer to send to one, who has not paid, and refuse another, who may be equally responsible and prompt; and we therefore must decline sending the paper to any one without the dollar in advance. The expense is so small, that any one desirous of taking the paper can either now or in a short time send his dollar; and we shall have a supply of the back Nos. to furnish subsequent subscribers.

TO THE PRACTICAL FARMER.—Upon you we *must* rely for the matter that is to make this paper interesting and valuable. No editoral skill can make it what the West demands; but if every practical farmer only feels an interest in the cause—if all will feel, each for himself, and not another, that the appeal is directed to him individually, we may expect certain success. What we wish is this—as soon as any one obtains any valuable agricultural information, a recipe, a plan, or any other matter that would be adapted to our paper, that he would sit down immediately and communicate it. In this manner communications will be more to the point, than if writers delay till they can collect several facts. If they sit down to it as to a day's work, they will be more likely to send long, dry, uninteresting articles, such as we do not wish to print, nor our readers to read. But if as soon as a farmer obtains one fact, he sends it, it will be what we want—"short and sweet."

Many farmers may perhaps decline communicating their knowledge, because they may feel themselves incompetent to write for publication. To such we would say, that we *most earnestly* request you to send us articles, and should there be a word mis-spelt, or a sentence that might be improved by a little alteration, we will use our endeavors to make it right. What we want are *facts*—and perhaps a fact a farmer might possess, and which he declines sending, because he may perhaps not have enjoyed advantages of education in early life, might be of more service to the West, than all the matter we might publish in several numbers.

We do hope every farmer who reads this will feel the appeal as directed to him personally; and remember, that though he may know how a thing is done, and think others should also, that the communication of a single fact, considered by him so simple, may be of immense benefit to hundreds of Western farmers.

Our edition of 2500 copies, insures an extensive perusal of communications furnished this paper.

TO PUBLISHERS.—It is gratifying to us, that the efforts of the U. A. S. to improve Western farming, are so generally seconded by publishers, by placing this paper on their exchange list. There are some, however, to whom the previous Nos. have been sent, from whom no response has been received. It may be the papers have miscarried, and we ardently hope this is the reason; for such papers as the Spirit of the Times, Farmer's Cabinet, New-England Farmer, &c. &c., we wish much to have.

We hope to be able occasionally to furnish articles upon Western subjects, that will be read with interest at the East, and be well worth transferring to the columns of distant papers. If half our friends fulfil their promises to contribute to the columns of the Un. Agr., Eastern or Southern papers will find it no loss to exchange with us, even though their papers may be worth ten dollars instead of one. But we by no means suppose our paper is to be worth to them, what theirs is to us.

Were this paper published for individual benefit, we should not expect publishers of more valuable papers to exchange with us, without the difference being paid; but inasmuch as the Society has commenced it solely with a view to Western improvement in agriculture, and intends to enlarge and improve it as fast as the receipts will warrant, we consider it not in the least derogatory to ask the aid of our brethren in this great cause, though to some of them it may be at a trifling pecuniary loss.

AGENTS.—We hope those gentlemen whose names are to our list of agents, will be willing to exert themselves much in our behalf. Our acquaintance with many of them, warrants us in expecting great benefits from their assistance; and the names of others have been furnished by those who feel assured they would gladly co-operate with the Society in sustaining its paper, and in promoting agricultural improvement.

Not only do we wish agents to obtain subscribers to the paper, but also to procure contributors to its columns. We trust all will feel the value of such a paper to the West, if well conducted; and remember that no editorial skill will make it what is required, unless exertions are made in the country to keep us constantly supplied with original articles. For this we depend to a good degree upon agents.

It has been impossible to prepare a perfect list for this No. We expect to receive more names in season for the next, and will be much obliged to any of our friends to furnish the names of those who will assist the Society in the enterprise.

Should any already published decline acting, or if they can recommend those who may be more efficient, they will please notify us.

TO THE WESTERN PRESS, we are much indebted for their kindly notices of our first efforts. In requesting them to notice the commencement of this paper, we did not intend to ask for laudatory puffs—fulsome flattery, but for such a notice as would draw the attention of their readers, and perhaps induce many to subscribe; or what we consider better, send us original articles for publication.

Many are willing to exchange with us, and we consider it quite an object, for they will often-times furnish us with excellent extracts; but some think it too much to give a weekly in exchange for a monthly, and to such we would say, we will send them this paper if they will insert our prospectus. We shall be obliged to them, if they will occasionally in an editorial article, "keep before the people," the advantage it will be to the West, as well as to us, to have agricultural information furnished us; and if they find in their columns, or in other papers, articles suitable for our columns, if they will send them to us, we will acknowledge the obligation.

STATE AGR. SOC.—Before the adjournment of the Legislature, while so many of the friends of agriculture are convened at Springfield, a meeting of the Society should be held, to select subjects for the best essays, upon which prizes will be given. This course would show the Society was organized for some purpose; and the offer of a few silver cups worth five or ten dollars, or escutcheng of a similar character, would insure the production of essays that would be valuable.

We hope soon to receive a copy of the address Judge Robins was expected to deliver. An extensive circulation of it, would increase the interest in the prosperity of the Society.

Would it not be well to limit to a short period the time for receiving essays on some of the subjects that may be proposed, so that some valuable articles may be obtained, previous to the next regular meeting, or before it will be expedient to call one?

GARDENING.—This most delightful of all employments is beginning to receive considerable attention in the West. Doubtless new beginners would like to receive instructions in many particulars, and our columns are open to those who may be possessed of experience, as well as to inquirers. Spring will soon be here, and we hope to receive articles immediately. Some of the ladies might furnish us with directions for the flower-garden, and perhaps the vegetable also.

We will make selections upon this subject as we have opportunity.

HEREFORD STOCK.—A description of this breed, with engravings will be given in the next number. The engravings of the Devonshire, and of the Yorkshire, inserted in previous numbers, will appear also in subsequent ones.

IMPROVEMENTS IN ILLINOIS.—Four years since, we travelled from Springfield to Alton, through the counties of Sangamon, Morgan, Scott, Greene, Jersey and Madison, and have now just been over the same route. Although accustomed to the rapid changes peculiar to the West, yet the improvements in these counties were indeed wonderful. Throughout the whole extent, it is almost one continued chain of enclosures. Fruit of all kinds, particularly the apple and peach, seemed abundant; and the meadows of cultivated grasses, were neither few nor far between. Great attention has been paid to improvements in stock, and the interest in this branch of farming is rapidly increasing. The agricultural societies, which are in efficient operation in these counties, are doubtless powerful incentives to improvement.

Many of the farms manifested thrift and comfort, sufficient to convince a stranger, that at any rate *all* the citizens of Illinois had not gone crazy with rail-roads and speculations; and that it only requires a little time to correct the evils of the past few years, when Illinois will not only be able to sustain herself under her present incumbrances, but to do whatever may be necessary for the promotion of her prosperity.

One farm in particular, a little South of Whitehall, we cannot forbear noticing, on account of its substantial and superior appearance. The dwelling-house is a small comfortable looking one of wood, and around it have arisen, evidently one after another as they have been required, three large barns. And now a fine brick building is being erected, which we will vouch the proprietor will never have to leave at the invitation of the sheriff. He has began to build from the foundation; and the barns, stacks, fine orchard, and good looking stock, indicate the foundation to be a solid one.

Since writing the above, we are informed the place is Col. Gregory's.

Four weeks since, 35,000 hogs had been barreled at Alton.

Treat your brutes like men.

BACHELDER'S PATENT PLANTING MACHINE.—The U. A. S. has made a conditional bargain for the right to this machine for the district embraced in the Charter. There is six months time given to test the machine, which will be sufficient to see how corn, &c., comes up after being planted with it. The great doubt is, whether it will row both ways or not. This is a requisite that cannot be dispensed with in the West, where the hoe is so little used, and cannot be very much, because of the scarcity of labor.

It will be an object with the Society to purchase patent-rights of valuable labor-saving implements, &c., and have them manufactured as cheap as possible, and sold to *members*, at cost, or a very small advance.

Those owning rights we should like to receive *post-paid* communications from, (others will not be attended to,) containing descriptions, &c. Our paper being extensively circulated throughout the West, will furnish a valuable medium for advertising; and if drawings are sent, we can obtain engravings to insert with an advertisement or description.

Those of our friends visiting Springfield at this time, desirous of subscribing for this paper, we hope will not fail to pay over their subscriptions before leaving, to GEORGE DAVIS, Esq. It will save the trouble of writing and sending by mail.

TO THE COMMITTEES OF THE U. A. S., appointed by the Commissioners to procure subscribers to the capital Stock, we would say, it is desirable returns were received from them. According to the by-laws, they are required to "make returns to the recording secretary, previous to each annual meeting, and whenever he may call for them." As it is desirable it should be known who are members we would request the committees to make returns to us as soon as possible, giving the names of the subscribers, and their Post Offices. In nearly every precinct in the district, one or more persons have been appointed, and if their duties have not been performed, it would be well to make new appointments of those having more time, or feeling a greater interest in the Society. New appointments can be rendered by furnishing the Secretary with the necessary information. A list of the committees will appear in the next number.

PEDIGREES.—Illinois is doubtless destined to be a great stock raising State, and blood stock will be eagerly sought for, as the means of the farmers will permit. They will consequently be liable to imposition, and some might perhaps purchase common for thorough bred animals, at considerable expense. Were farmers possessed of pedigrees, or some work to which they might refer for information, it might save them from imposition. This we should like to furnish, and should be glad to receive pedigrees for publication. To those taking an interest in improvements in stock, such matter will be desirable.

Through the kindness of a gentleman in this City, we are permitted to hope for an exchange of the publications of the U. A. S., with the Highland Agr. Soc. of Scotland, the most extensive and wealthy agricultural society in the world. The value of its publications may be judged by the fact, that often as much as $2,000, are paid for single prize essays on subjects proposed by the Society. Probably an occasional article upon our Western improvements and productions, would be read with interest in the Old World.

We should like much to receive them; and it would be pleasant to the "Sons of Caledonia," in these Western wilds, most of whom we are happy to reckon among our best farmers now and then to see an article extracted from a paper published near the home of their childhood.

PATENT OFFICE.—The Hall in the new Patent Office at Washington, for the exhibition of American manufactures is now completed; it is 273 feet long, 63 feet wide, 30 feet high, and fire proof.

THE CHARTER OF THE U. A. S. as amended at the last Session of the Legislature.

An Act to incorporate the Union Agricultural Society.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:* That all persons who shall become stockholders pursuant to this Act, are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, by the name of "The Union Agricultural Society;" and from and after the passage of this Act, by that name they and their successors shall and may hereafter have succession, and shall in law be capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded, answering and being answered, in all courts and places whatsoever; which incorporation is for the sole purposes of instruction and science, and improvements in scientific and practical agriculture, and the mechanical arts, in the counties of La Salle, Will, Cook, McHenry and Kane.

SEC. 2. The capital stock of said company shall be ten thousand dollars, with the privilege of increasing it to thirty thousand dollars, to be divided into shares of ten dollars each, which shall be considered as personal property, and be assignable in such manner as the said corporation may in its by-laws from time to time provide; which said capital stock shall be exclusively devoted to the purposes and objects of said corporation, as declared in the first section of this Act, and to no other purposes or objects whatever; and to the same end, the said corporation shall have power to take, hold, and convey real estate and other property to the amount of its capital.

SEC. 3. Said corporation shall have power by its trustees or a majority of them present at any regularly called meetings, to make by-laws for its own government; for the promotion of the aforesaid objects or any one of them; for the establishment of agricultural fair shows; for the awarding of premiums, and for the raising of funds therefor; for fixing the amount of capital stock from time to time to be called in, and the time or times for calling in the same; and generally, for any other purpose or purposes pertaining to the objects of the corporation, and not inconsistent with this Act or with the laws or constitution of this State, or with the constitution of the United States.

SEC. 4. Levi Hills and B. H. Moores, of La Salle county; Cornelius C. Van Horn and Holder Sisson, of Will County; Lewis Ellsworth and John S. Wright, of Cook county; W. Jackson and Seth Washburn, of McHenry county; Gen. McClure and John R. Livingston, of Kane county, shall be commissioners to receive subscriptions for and distribute said capital stock for said corporation.

SEC 5. Said commissioners or a majority of them, may open books for subscriptions to said capital stock, at such times and places as they may think best, by advertising the same at least fourteen days previous, in two or more of the newspapers published in said counties, and may close the same at pleasure, and may appoint committees to receive subscriptions, and abrogate the same or any of them at pleasure, and any subscriptions that have been or may be made under the direction of the commissioners, or the committees by them appointed, or to be appointed, are hereby legalized and made valid.

SEC. 6. Five per cent. on each share subscribed for shall be paid to said commissioners, or to said committees by them to be appointed, as aforesaid, at the time of making such subscription; and the remainder of said capital stock so subscribed, as aforesaid, shall be paid in in such sum or sums and at such time or times as may be provided for and directed by the by-laws of said corporation; but not more than fifty per cent. of the stock so subscribed shall be called for in any one year, without the unanimous consent of all the holders of said stock.

SEC. 7. If the subscriptions to the capital stock shall exceed ten thousand dollars, the commissioners may apportion the same among the subscribers thereto, or increase the capital stock from time to time to any amount less than thirty thousand dollars.

SEC. 8. Said commissioners shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Trustees, and when removed, the powers vested in them shall vest in and may be executed by the trustees.

SEC. 9. The stock, property and concerns of said corporation shall be managed by fifty trustees, ten being residents of each of the aforesaid counties, who shall be stockholders of said corporation, and any five of whom, to be designated by a majority of the trustees, shall form a quorum for the transaction of all ordinary business of said corporation

SEC. 10. Abraham Holderman, Levi Hills, Joshua Collins, Salmon Rutherford, S. S. Bullock, David Shaver, B. H. Moores, S. Delano, Benjamin B Reynolds and Henry Green, of La Salle county; Holder Sisson, Calvin Rowley, J. A. Gooding, William Smith, Wm. B. Peck, Reuben Beach, John Blackstone, Chas. Reed, Cornelius C. Van Horn and John Dean Caton, of Will county; William B. Ogden, Joseph Naper, Socrates Rand, E. Peck, Lewis Ellsworth, Seth Johnson, William P. Caton, R. A. Kinzie, Russell Whipple and J. S. Wright, of Cook county; Isaac Hicox, Matthias Mason, Arthur Patterson, Mr. Bartlett, J. G. Regan, Wm. Jackson, Seth Wasburn, Joseph Wickham, Ziba S. Boardsley and Willard Jones of McHonry county; General McClure, James T. Gifford, Colton Knox, Rice Fay, Ira Minard, Isaac Wilson, John R. Livingston, R. C. Horr, Mr. Risk and Joel KeKee, of Kane county, shall be the first trustees of said corporation, and shall hold their offices until the last Wednesday in December, A. D. 1839, and until other shall be elected in their places.

SEC. 11. The trustees hereafter shall be elected at such times as may be provided in the by-laws, and shall hold their offices until others are elected in their places; and notice of the time and place of holding such election shall be given by the secretary, by advertising the same at least fourteen days previous, in two or more of the newspapers published in said counties.

SEC. 12. At every election of trustees, each stockholder shall be entitled to one vote on each share of stock owned by him, and which he shall have held for at least fourteen days next preceding such election; and such vote or votes may be given by such stockholder in person, or by authorizing any other stockholder, in writing, to give the vote or votes for him, to which he may be entitled.

SEC. 13. All elections for trustees shall be held under the inspection of three stockholders, not being trustees, to be appointed previous to every election, by the board of trustees for the time being; and such election shall be by ballot, and by plurality of votes of the stockholders, or their proxies there present; and those fifty persons who shall receive the greatest number of votes, ten of them being residents of each of the aforesaid counties, shall be the trustees of said corporation; and if at any such election for trustees, two or more persons from a county shall have an equal number of votes, then the trustees who shall have been duly elected shall proceed by ballot, and by plurality of votes, to determine which of the said persons, so having an equal number of votes, shall be the trustee or trustees, so as to complete the whole number of fifty.

SEC. 14. If any trustee of said corporation shall cease to be a stockholder thereof, or shall remove out of the county from which he was elected, his office shall thereby become vacant; and whenever any vacancy shall happen among the trustees, such vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the year in which it shall so happen by such person possessing the qualifications above required for trustee of this corporation, as the remaining trustees for the time being, or a majority of them present, shall appoint:—*Provided*, such trustee thus appointed shall be a resident of the county in the representation of which such vacancy shall have occurred.

SEC. 15. The trustees of said corporation, as soon as may be after their appointment or election under this Act, shall in like manner proceed to elect of their number a president, five vice-presidents, (one being a resident of each of the aforesaid counties,) a treasurer, (of whom they may require bonds in a sum sufficient to ensure the faithful discharge of his duties,) a recording secretary, and a corresponding secretary: which election shall be by ballot, and by plurality of votes of the trustees or their proxies then present, who shall respectively hold their offices for one year, and until others shall be elected in their places; the notice of which election shall this year be given by the commissioners appointed in the fourth section of this Act, and each and every year hereafter, as may be provided in the by-laws of said corporation; and the trustees shall also appoint such professors, agents and other persons as may be necessary to conduct the proper business, and accomplish the declared objects of said corporation; and may adopt a common seal for the same, and establish by-laws for the government thereof, pursuant to the provisions of the third section of this Act. They may also establish or connect with this society, branches or auxiliary societies of like character in the counties of La Salle, Will, Cook, McHenry and Kane.

SEC. 16. The president, or a majority of the vice-presidents, may call a meeting of the stockholders or trustees, when it may be necessary to the welfare of this society, by giving public notice thereof at least fourteen days previous to the time appointed for such meeting, in at least two of the public newspapers published in said counties; and a majority of the stockholders or trustees, or their proxies, then present at any such meeting of the stockholders or trustees, as the meeting may be of stockholders or trustees, shall govern in all matters provided for in this Act.

SEC. 17. Whenever a sufficient amount of stock of said corporation shall have been subscribed and paid in, as aforesaid, the trustees shall, as soon as may be thereafter, proceed to the purchase of a pattern or experimental farm of such size as they may deem most advantageous for the institution, but containing not less than one hundred and sixty acres of land, and not more than six hundred and forty, to be located in one of said counties, as the trustees shall direct.—Said trustees may expend a portion of the stock or funds of said corporation in the improvement of said farm; in stocking the same; in the erection thereon of suitable buildings; in the establishment, at their discretion, of an agricultural school; in the employment of teachers and professors, and in the purchase of apparatus for the same; and said trustees shall have power to make by-laws for the government of said school, and generally to make all such other arrangements as may be proper for the benefit of said corporation, and the accomplishment of its object.

SEC. 18. That any share or shares of stock, which may be held or owned by any member of this corporation at the time of his death, shall not vest in the heirs or legal representatives of any such member, but the same shall be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, after four weeks public notice thereof, in such manner as the trustees of said corporation may direct; and the proceeds of such shares, after the same shall have been sold, shall be paid over to the heirs or legal representatives of said deceased stockholder. Approved Feb. 19, 1839.

The Amendment, approved Jan. 31, 1840, provides that the Society shall continue in existence twenty years.

SHELTER ANIMALS FROM STORMS.—All domestic animals should be sheltered from storms, however hardy they may be. Many creatures will endure the severe cold very well, but let them be exposed to snow which melts on them, and they will at once draw themselves into as small a compass as possible, and look as though they were reduced 25 per cent in their value. They suffer severely from moisture in cold weather, and if not properly protected, the consumption of more fodder, and less thrift and disease in the animals will be the sad consequences. Every good farmer will guard against these evils.

In stormy weather cattle should remain out only long enough to drink, and when put into the barn the snow or water should be brushed from them. Sheep should go out in a yard in winter and be much in the open air, especially when many of them are together, and do not occupy a large space under shelter; but they should have dry *jackets*.—*Yankee Farmer.*

SOWING SPRING WHEAT.—It is time communications were received, relative to sowing spring wheat. Many different species have been more or less tested, and it would be of advantage—great advantage, to publish results of experiments, with particular directions for preparing the soil, seed, &c. Statements should be clear, explicit in detail, and yet concise.

Some discussion and investigation of this branch soon, might be of benefit the coming season.

THE AMERICAN FARMER.—The following beautiful description of our most worthy and happy class of citizens, is from the address of Mr. Rowan of Kentucky, to the citizens of Louisville. If any one would enquire why farmers are more worthy than any other class, this description will answer the question.—They follow that profession which is most essential to the public good, and which is the foundation and support of all other useful employments, and the situation of farmers leads them to a higher state of moral worth than any other class will attain.—*Yankee Farmer.*

"Who is there among us that beholds the condition of our farmers and does not exult in the consciousness that he is an American citizen, and pant to supersede the character of a farmer? The house of the farmer is the abode of the virtuous. It is a school in which lessons of practical wisdom are taught. It is a temple in which the precepts of our holy religion are inculcated. It is the castle of sovereignty, for it is owned by its occupant and he is a freeman. It is the residence of peace, order, harmony and happiness. Patriotism and harmony unite in consecrating the place, and in suffusing every countenance with their unction. Indeed, what condition in life is so likely to produce that patriotism which will stand the country instead upon emergencies, or that piety which will afford solace in extremity as that of the farmer? He occupies a constant, intimate and sensible relationship with Heaven. His mind is subdued with a love of order, by constantly beholding that which prevails around him. The regular succession of the seasons, of day and night, and of seed time and harvest, admonish him to the observance of regularity and order in all his conduct. He perceives that the sun and moon performs their circuits without loitering on the way; and learns from them that industry is required at his hands. He looks to Heaven through its rains and dews, for the reward of his labors in the abundance of his crops. He makes the sacred volume of revelation the man of his council, and the source of his consolation. He unites with his wife and children tones of supplication and strains of praise around the family altar on the morning and evening of each day. He acknowledges no sovereign but Heaven and the people; he bows with appropriate reverence to the will of each, and exults in the freedom of his own, for his homage is a free-will offering claimed at his hand by the convictions of his reason. His affections are conducted by his judgments and not by his fears, in his devotion. Matron chastity, and infantile innocence sweeten, and religion hallows the atmosphere of his home, and renders it irresistibly attractive. He loves the country because his farm and domicil of which he is the proprietor, and with which his affections are identified, are a part of that country. His patriotism is an essential part of his conscious identity. Connected by his affections with the soil, and by his piety with heaven, it partakes with the stability of the former, and the purity of the latter. It inspires him with holy enthusiasm in the cause of his country, when its honor or safety is concerned. It is electric, and strikes every contiguous bosom till it pervades the community."

GOLDEN ROCK WHEAT.—Who can furnish information concerning this Wheat? Has any been brought into the West and tested?

We cut the following from the N. Y. Obs, and should be glad to learn more of it.

"Golden Rock Wheat is spoken of very favorably in the Frederic (Md.) Herald. One farmer who has sown three acres with it, expects a product of from 140 to 150 bushels.—The grains in one head of some which was left in the Herald office numbered 90, and the product of good samples said to be from 80 upto 120 grains to the head."

We return our thanks to Mr. Webster for the pamphlet sent us containing his and Prof. Silliman's addresses, (with notes by Mr. Colman,) before the Agricultural Meeting recently held in Boston. A short extract is entered below, and others will be in subsequent Nos.

Those friendly to agricultural improvement in the great West, can render us great service, by sending us productions of a similar character, from which to extract. They should be directed to The Union Agriculturist.

For the interest Mr. W. expresses in his accompanying note, in the prosperity of the Society we are greatful; and trust he may not be disappointed in the ultimate results of the enterprise. There are some, and their number is constantly increasing, who appreciate the importance of the Society, not only to our own district, but to the entire West, and who will be untiring in their exertions to promote its prosperity.

"The raising of sheep, in England, is an immense interest. England probably clips fifty millions of fleeces this year, lambs under a year old not being shorn. The average yield may be six or seven pounds to a fleece. There are two principal classes of sheep in England, the long wooled, and the short wooled. Among these are many varieties, but this is the general division, or classification. The Leicester, and the South Down, belong respectively, to these several families. The common clip of the former may be estimated from seven to eight pounds; and of the last from three to three and a half or four. Mr. Webster mentioned these particulars only as estimates; and much more accurate information might doubtless be obtained from many writers. In New England, we were just beginning to estimate rightly the importance of raising sheep. England had seen it much earlier, and was pursuing it with far more zeal and perseverance. Our climate, as already observed, differs from that of England; but the great inquiry applicable in equal force to both countries is, how can we manage our land in order to produce the largest crops, while at the same time we keep up the condition of the land and place it if possible in a course of gradual improvement? The success of farming must depend in a considerable degree upon the animals produced and supported on the farm.—The farmer may calculate in respect to animals upon two grounds of profit; the natural growth of the animal, and the weight obtained by fattening. The skilful farmer, therefore, expects where he gains one pound in the fattening of his animal, to gain an equal amount in the growth. The early maturity of stock is consequently a point of much importance.

Oxen are rarely reared in England for the yoke. In Devonshire and Cornwall, ox teams are employed; but in travelling one thousand miles in England, Mr. Webster saw only one ox team, and here they were driven one before the other, and in harnesses similar to the harnesses of horses. Bullocks are raised for the market. It is highly desirable, therefore, both in respect to neat cattle and sheep, that their growth should be rapid and their fattening properties favorable, that they may be early disposed of, and consequently the expense of production lessened.

The breed of cattle in England was greatly improved, and still improving. He had seen some of the best stocks, and many individual animals from others, and thought them admirable. The short horned cattle, brought to this country, were often very good specimens.

He said he had seen the flocks from which some of them had been selected, and they were certainly among the best in England.—But in every selection of stock, we are to regard our own climate, and our own circumstances. We raise oxen for work, as well as for beef; and he was of opinion that the Devonshire stock furnished excellent animals for our use. We had suffered that old stock, brought hither by our ancestors, to run down, and be deteriorated. It had been kept up, and greatly improved, in England, and we might now usefully import from it. The Devonshire ox is a hardy animal, of size and make suited to the plough, and though certainly not the largest for beef, yet generally very well fattened. He thought quite well, also, of the Ayrshirecows. They were good milkers, and being a hardy race, were, on that account, well suited to the cold climate, and to the coarse and sometimes scanty pasturage of New England. After all, he thought, there could be no doubt, that the improved breed of short horns were the finest cattle in the world, and should be preferred, wherever plenty of good feed, and some mildness of climate invited them. They were well fitted to the Western States, where there is an overflowing abundance, both of winter and summer feed, and where, as in England, bullocks are raised for beef only. He had no doubt, also, that they might be usefully reised in the rich vallays of the Connecticut, and perhaps in some other favored parts of the State. But, for himself, as a farmer on the thin lands of Plymouth county, and on the sea, he did not feel that he could give, to animals of this breed, that entertainment, which their merit deserved."

Great Potatoe!—or else a great many of them. Mr Peasly, residing five miles north of this place, has raised this season, from *two* Rohan potatoes, *three bushels and three pecks*—"heaped up and running over." Beat that ye Suckers!—*Mad. Exp.*

We accept the challenge. Mr. Hanson of this city last spring gave Mr. Joseph Vial of Salt Creek precinct, *four* Rohans weighing less than 12 oz. each. From those four he has raised *fourteen bushels*. Two of them produced 7½ bushels large measure. Thirty-five of the potatoes filled a flour barrel to running over. The largest one weighed 5 lbs. 6 oz.—Some of the potatoes are at Mr. Hanson's store on Lake-st.

In as much as several have doubted the truth of the above statement, we would say that an acquaintance of seven years with Mr. Vial, authorizes us to endorse any statement of facts made by him.

Mr. V. promised us a description of a new kind of corn raised by him the past season, with good success. We should like to receive it.

Book Farming.—Do the words produce a sneer! Be that as it may—the *thing*, or what is often stigmatized as *that thing*, is not contemptible. For what is it? Not an attempt to comply with the advice and copy the example of every one who furnishes an article for an agricultural journal; not the adoption of every method of husbandry that is recommended in print; not a departure from all the usages of our fathers and neighbors; not a preference of the theories contained in books, to the results of experience. No! I pity the stupidity of the man who thinks that if we use books, we must close our eyes against the light that is beaming upon us from other sources; or that we must become mere theorisers, and the victims of ruinous experiments. What! does a man lose his own common sense, his prudence and his judgment, whenever he takes up an agricultural paper, or opens a book upon husbandry! Cannot one make himself acquainted with the doings of others, without losing his power to judge whether it would be well for him, in his circumstances, to copy their examples! Our brains are not so weak as this. The knowledge acquired from books does not make us all mad. But if it did, there would be more zeal and true enjoyment in the learned madman's course, than in that of him who has learned out, and who thinks that books cannot make him wiser. I ask what book-farming is? Common book-farming is, learning by means of books, new facts, opinions, results of experiments, modes of operation, and the using such parts of the information as can be turned to profitable account in our individual situations. If this be folly, we are content to be called fools. An agricultural paper will be worth to you every month, if not every week, more than its annual cost.—*Mr. Putnam's Address.*

When we see leaves drop from the trees in the beginning of autumn, just such, think we, is the friendship of the world. While the sap of maintenance lasts, our friends swarm in abundance; but in the winter of need they leave us naked. He is a happy man that hath no need of his friends.

YOUNG MEN'S DEPARTMENT.

The Young Men of the West, if they take an interest in this paper, are able to make it all the Society could wish; and by aiding the paper, they would materially benefit themselves. Not only would they be benefited by reading each others communications, but the habits of close observation they would acquire, would be of incalculable advantage. If each one would keep a memorandum book, and carefully note down every thing of importance that fell under his own observation, or the experience of others, as he could obtain it—if he set down with accuracy facts connected with his farming operations, such as the amount of grain sown or planted in a field; the dates of ploughing, sowing and harvesting, with occasional notes of the appearance of the crops; the date of birth of animals, and other matters of a similar character, he would doubtless derive much pleasure and profit from subsequent examinations of it. There would then be no guess work, and in comparing statistics with a neighbor, or if he wished to furnish evidence of the age of an animal, he would have it in black and white; and in furnishing us communications, he would not be obliged to say, "I guess, I think, I reckon," but every thing would come with an authoritative "*I know.*"

Any one adopting this system, would rapidly improve his habits of observation; and with such memorandums for reference, they would find their willingness and desire to communicate their observations and experience for publication, for the benefit of others, increase in proportion to the pains taken in making memorandums.

We commend to their attention the letter from Mr. Robinson, and the following remarks from the Cultivator, with the request that each one will feel the appeal is made directly to him.

The Young Man we would especially appeal to. You are destined soon to occupy the stage of public action, and to fill the important stations in society. *Now* is the time to *prepare* for these high duties, as well as for profit and distinction in your business. Your characters are but partially formed, and are yet susceptible of receiving good or bad impressions, which are to last through life. It is important to you, to your friends, and to society, that these impressions should be for good. We will lay before you rules and examples of the wisest and best of men, to aid you in the formation of your characters—to enable you to become intelligent and successful in your business,—useful and respectable in society,—and beloved and happy in your families. Do not object that you have no *time* to read. Few young men labor more hours than did Benjamin Franklin, or are more humble and self-dependent than he was in his youth; and yet Franklin found abundant time for self-instruction; and so indefatigable and successful was he in his studies, that he became one of the most useful and celebrated men of his age.—We need not limit the remark to Franklin; most of the distinguished men of the day have risen from humble stations by their own industry and frugality, and have acquired a great share of their knowledge in the hours not allotted to ordinary business.

Your winter evenings are your own, and may be applied usefully. They may be computed at one-fourth of the day, or one entire month in the year. Time is money: and the man who appropriates this month to the acquiring useful knowledge, does more to add to his future fortune, to say nothing of his intellectual wealth, than if he received pay for this month and loaned it upon interest.—Knowledge is in another respect like money; the greater the stock of it on hand, the more it will administer to the respectability and enjoyments of life. But knowledge is not to be acquired without exertion, nor is any thing else that is useful in life. It is the labor we bestow in acquiring an object that imparts to it an intrinsic value. It has been well said, that "although we may be learned by the help of others, we can never be wise but by our own wisdom." It is the humble design of this monthly sheet to excite a laudable ambition to improve the mind as well as the soil. If we succeed in awakening the latent energies of the former, we think the latter will follow as a natural consequence, and our object will be attained.—*Specimen sheet Cult.*

The fashionable young gentleman in embryo.—Behold the sight! A young man has conceived the idea that to be manly he must do as some man do; drink his julip and smoke his cigar. We see the young Tyro with his glass in one hand and his cigar in the other; and among his first essays he finds it impossible for his sense of propriety not to rebel against such an abuse of true manliness: he finds with all his efforts to ape the senseless, that if lewdness can affect modesty, it is exceedingly difficult for modesty to wear the garb of lewdness. His great effort is to appear indifferent in the practice of that which is and forever ought to be a source of guilt and shame.—Tug on young man, you will soon murder your finer sensations, and in proportion to your progress, you will as certainly lose the innate and tender respect and confidence of others which you once enjoyed.—*Mich. Adv.*

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

Indian corn, or Grain of any kind, which is musty, remedy for.—Immerse it in boiling water, and let it remain till the water becomes cold. The quantity of water should be at least double the quantity of corn to be purified.—*N. Eng. Farmer.*

Curing of Hams.—The article called *pyroligneous acid*, (or essence of smoke) is much used in the curing of hams, and is preferable to the usual mode, in being a great saving of trouble and expense, and (as we think) favors the quality also. Our mode is as follows: after the hams have been three or four weeks in salt and pickle, take three pints of the acid to one barrel of hams, and mingle it in the barrel with the pickle and salt, and let the hams lie therein for three or four weeks.—They must then be washed off and hung up in a garret, or other dry place. They improve last by age, and keep sweet in the hottest weather. After four years' experience we can safely recommend this mode.—*Long Island Star.*

Red Beet Pies.—The red beet generally appears on our table in an acid and cold form, as a pickle only; whereas if our female friends would take the matter in hand, we doubt not that it may be prepared in a variety of ways, superior to any garden production which we possess—as it is abundantly and easily cultivated, and kept in a state of perfect freshness during the whole year. By a recent trial it has been found that pies may be made of it, which are equal if not superior to rhubarb. Either from the leaves, the same as rhubarb, or from the root; by cutting it into square pieces—vinegar and sugar, 'and other spices if liked,' can be added to suit any palate, while it possesses the advantage of furnishing us with a delicate and beautiful pie, and which can grace our tables at any season of the year.—*Farmer's Gaz.*

Lard, in trying, is very frequently injured by being scorched. This difficulty is easily removed by paring and slicing a few raw potatoes, and throwing them in immediately. The original whiteness will be restored.

In order that lard may keep well in warm weather, it is requisite that it be cooked enough in trying, but burning it is to be carefully avoided.—*Gen. Farm.*

Potato Pudding.—One pound of butter, one do. of sugar, beat to a cream, two pounds of potatoes boiled and pressed through the cullender, twelve eggs, one glass of brandy, one of wine, half a glass of rose water, one teaspoonful of spice.

To dress Calf's Head Soup.—Take a calf's head, (with the skin on if you can get it) part of the liver and lights, boil it in six quarts of water, until you can take the bones out, put it on a dish, season it with pepper, salt, and sweet marjorum, thyme and sage, mace and cloves, skim the water if there be any fat on it, then put it all back in the same water that you boiled it in, and let it boil till done; just before you take it up, put one glass of wine and brown it with a little burnt sugar, thicken it with a little butter and flour. If you want to make a great deal of soup, you must add a knuckle of veal, as the head only will not make it rich enough, fry some forcemeat balls and put in it. If you wish to make the dish without soup, boil the head in the same way, and season it in the same manner, in the dish, with a little of the water it was boiled in, thicken it a little with butter and flour, put it in the oven till you think it is done.

To Keep out Skippers from Bacon.—As this is about the time when our friends are beginning to smoke their meat, it may do them some good to inform them that a small bit of brimstone, about the size of a chinquepin, thrown into the fire once a day, will effectually prevent skippers and bugs from getting into the bacon. This information we have from a friend whom we highly esteem, and who assured us that he had so fully tried the efficacy of this plan, that he wished us to make it generally known. He added that no uncommon smell or taste is imparted to the bacon. We deem this information of great importance to those who have bacon to cure; also, to those who have to buy it.—*Salisb. Watchman.*

Suet and Lard.—Suet and lard keep better in tin than in earthen vessels.

Suet keeps good all the year round if chopped and packed down in a stone jar, covered with molasses.

Preserving Bread Moist.—The other day I saw a lady on taking her bread out of the oven wash her loaves with cold water. I inquired the reasons. She said there were two objects in doing it—one to wash off the ashes and coals that might adhere, and the other to keep the bread from becoming too dry and hard. After washing the loaves moderetely, she put them in a barrel and covered them closely with a clean cloth.—*N. Y. Farmer.*

Wood made incombustible.—I send you below, Messrs. Editors, a receipt for making a composition which will render wood entirely incombustible. It is very simply prepared and quite easy of application, being used the same as paint with an ordinary brush. A good coat applied to the floor under stoves would be an excellent precaution.

Take a quantity of water, proportioned to the surface of wood you may wish to cover and add to it as much potash as can be dissolved therein. When the water will dissolve no more potash, stir into the solution, first, a quantity of flour paste of the consistency of common painters' size; second, a sufficient quantity of pure clay to render it of the consisteoce of cream.

When the clay is well mixed, apply the preparation as before directed to the wood; it will secure it from the action of both fire and rain. In a most violent fire, wood thus saturated may be carbonated but will never blaze.

If desireble, a most agreeable color can be given to the preparetion by adding a small quantity of red or yellow ochre.

It might also be useful for you to mention in your paper, especially at this season of high winds, that a handful or two of sulphur to the fire when a chimney is burning out, will almost instantaneously extinguish the flames.—*Kennebec Farmer.*

Remedy for Chilblains.—Soak them in warm bran and water, then rub them well with mustard seed flour; but it will be better if this is done before they break.—*N. E. Far.*

Feeding Live Stock in Winter.—There is perhaps nothing relating to rural economy in which farmers differ more, both in theory and practice, than in feeding their cattle in the winter season. We speak not now of the different kinds of fodder, or of their comparative value in the feeding of stock, but merely of the manner and frequency with which the cattle are fed.

Many farmers believe it indispensable, both as to the good condition of their stock and the greatest economy of fodder, to feed them five times, at least, each day, during the winter; while others practise feeding but three or four times in a day; and again, others but twice.

Experiment alone can prove which of these modes of feeding will carry stock through the winter in the highest order, and with the least expense of fodder. Our own experience, on the subject, is decidedly in favor of feeding but twice in a day. More than twenty years' observation and experience in the keeping of stock, in a climate where, on an average, dry fodder is required to be given more than seven months in the year, has given us an opportunity to test the value of the several modes of feeding above mentioned. We were first induced to try the experiment of feeding twice in a day only, from information communicated to us by a very intelligent and successful farmer, in a neighboring town. He said he had, a few years before, had occasion to call on a farmer's widow to aid in the appraisal of several cows, and found them near the end of the winter in such high order as to draw his particular attention.

He inquired of the widow, particularly, the manner in which they had been kept, and found she had given them nothing but hay, through the winter; and that in consequence of having no man or boy to attend her stock, she had been obliged to do it herself; and being in rather feeble health, she had never fed them but twice a day. This led him to examine part cularly as to the kind and quality of the hay with which the cows had been fed. He found the hay not so good as his own, while the cows were in much higher order than his; though his had been fed five times a day through the winter.

From a knowledge of these facts, he afterwards adopted the same mode of feeding, giving his cattle just so much twice in each day, as they would eat up perfectly clean, and no more; and has since found it, by experience, both a saving of fodder and a benefit to his stock.—From this information we adopted the practice of feeding but twice in a day, something more than ten years ago, and have found, or think we have found, the same favorable results.—*Northern Farmer.*

Agriculture, will be successfully prosecuted, only in proportion as men are acquainted with the best modes and seasons of culture, the laws of vegetable and animal physiology, and the probable existence of that demand which it will be most profitable to supply.—*Wayland.*

THE AYRSHIRE BREED.—Mr. Webster speaks of this breed in his address extracted from in this No. From the character given of it, both by him and Mr. Youatt, it seems to be a desirable breed to be introduced among us, recommended so highly as it is for its dairy qualities. Our grass-clad prairies indicate grazing to be one of the most natural, and profitable pursuits of a Western farmer; and much pains should be taken to introduce the improved breeds best adapted to our soil and climate.

We know of no Ayrshire stock in the State, except that owned by W. S. Lincoln, Esq., spoken of in another column. The following descriptions and engravings are taken from Youatt's work on British Cattle.

The climate of this county (Aryshire) is moist but mild; and the soil, with its produce, is calculated to render it the finest dairy country in Scotland, and equal perhaps to any in Great Britain. There is a great deal of permanent pasture on the sides and tops of the hills, which is covered by sheep; but the greater part of the arable land is pasture and crop alternately. The pasture ground is occupied by the beautiful dairy-stock, a very small portion of it being reserved for the fattening of cows too old to milk.

Mr. Aiton, in his "Treatise on the Dairy Breed of Cows," (the most valuable work on the Dairy husbandry of the North, and on Dairy husbandry generally, that has yet been published,) thus describes the Ayrshire cattle. "The *shapes* most approved of in the dairy breed are as follows:—

"Head small, but rather long and narrow at the muzzle; the eye small, but smart and lively; the horns small, clear, crooked, and their roots at considerable distance from each other; neck long and slender, tapering towards the head, with no loose skin below; shoulders thin; fore-quarters light; hind-quarters large; back straight, broad behind, the joints rather loose and open; carcass deep, and pelvis capacious, and wide over the hips, with round fleshy buttocks; tail long and small; legs small and short, with firm joints; udder capacious, broad and square, stretching forward, and neither fleshy, low bung, nor loose; the milk veins largo and prominent; teats short, all pointing outwards, and at considerable distance from each other; skin thin and loose; hair soft and woolly. The head, bones, horns, and all parts of least value, small; and the general figure compact and well proportioned."

Mr. Aiton adds, in his "Survey"—"The *qualities* of a cow are of great importance.—Tameness and docility of temper greatly enhance the value of a milch-cow. Some degree of hardiness, a sound constitution, and a moderate degree of life and spirits are qualities to be



Ayrshire Bull, (Fig. 1.)

wished for in a dairy-cow, and what those of Ayrshire generally possess. The most valuable quality which a dairy cow can possess is, that she yields much milk, and that of an oily or butyraceous, or cascous nature, and that after she has yielded very large quantities of milk for several years, she shall be as valuable for beef as any other breed of cows kuown; her fat shall be much more mixed through the whole flesh, and she shall fatten faster than any other." This is high praise, and if it can be truly affirmed of the Ayrshire cattle, we are naturally anxious to know the origin, the progressive history, and the general management of this valuable animal.

The breed has much improved since Mr. Aiton described it, and is short in the leg, the neck a little thicker at the shoulder, but finely shaped towards the head; the horns smaller than those of the Highlanders, but clear and smooth, pointing forwards, and turning upwards, and tapering to a point. They are deep in the carcass, but not round and ample, and especially not so in the loins and haunches.—Some, however, have suspected, and not without reason, that an attention to the shape and beauty, and an attempt to produce fat and sleeky cattle, which may be admired at the show, has a tendency to improve what is only their second point—their quality as grazing cattle—and that at the hazard or the certainty of diminishing their value as milkers



HELEN M'GREGOR, (Fig. 2.)—An Ayrshire Cow imported by Mr. Struthers in 1839.

We agree with Mr. Aiton, that the excellency of a dairy cow is estimated by the quantity and the quality of her milk. The quantity yielded by the Ayrshire cow is, considering her size, very great. Five gallons daily, for two or three months after calving, may be considered as not more than an average quantity. Three gallons daily will be given for the next three months, and one gallon and a half during the succeeding four months. This would amount to more than 850 gallons; but, allowing for some unproductive cows, 600 gallons per year may be considered as the average quantity obtained annually from each cow. We shall enter more into this presently

The quality of the milk is estimated by the quantity of butter or cheese that it will yield. Three gallons and a half of this milk will yield about a pound of butter, country weight, or a pound and a half avordupois. An Ayrshire cow, therefore, may be reckoned to yield 257 English pounds of butter per annum, or about five pounds per week all the year round, besides the value of the butter-milk and her calf.

When the calculation is formed, according to the quantity of cheese that is usually produced, the following will be the result:—Twenty-eight gallons of milk, with the cream, will yield a stone (2 lbs.) of sweet-milk cheese, or 514 lbs. avordupois per annum, beside the whey and the calf.

This is certainly an extraordinary quantity of butter and cheese, and fully establishes the reputation of the Ayrshire cow, so far as the dairy is concerned.

The fattening properties of the Ayrshire cattle we believe to be a little exaggerated. They will feed kindly and profitably, and their meat will be good. They will fatten on farms and in districts where others could not be made to thrive at all, except partly or principally supported by artificial food. They unite, perhaps to a greater degree than any other breed the supposed incompatible properties of yielding a great deal of milk and beef. It is, however, as Mr. Rankine well observes, on the inferior soil and the moist climate of Ayrshire and the West of Scotland that their superiority as milkers is most remarkable. On their natural food of poor quality they give milk abundantly and long, and often until within a few days of calving, but when they are moved to richer pasture, their constitution changes, and they convert their food more into beef. In their own country, a cow of a fleshy make, and which seldom proves a good milker, may be easily raised to 40 or 50 stones, and bullocks of three years old are brought to weigh from 50 to 60 stones. There is a lurking tendency to fatten about them which good pasture will bring to light; so that when the Ayrshire cow is sent to England she loses her superiority as a milker, and begins to accumulate flesh. On this account it is that the English dealers who purchase the Ayrshire cows, generally select the coarsest animals they can find, in order to avoid the consequence of the change of climate and food. It is useless to exaggerate the qualities of any cattle, and it cannot be denied that even in this tendency to fatten when their milk begins to fail, or which often causes it to fail, the Ayrshires must yield to their forefathers, the Highlanders, and to their neighbors the Galloways, when put on a poor soil; and they will be left considerably behind their short-horn sires when transplanted to luxuriant pasture. It will be long, perhaps, before they will be favorites with the butchers, for the fifth quarter will not usually weigh well in them. Their fat is mingled with the flesh rather than separated in the form of tallow; yet this would give a more beautiful appearance to the meat, and should enhance its price to the consumer.

Two circumstances, however, may partially account for their not being thought to succeed so well when grazed; they are not able to travel so far on the same keeping as the Highland cattle can do; and, from their great value as milkers, they are often kept until they are too old to fatten to advantage, or for their beef to become of the best quality.

The advantage of feeding well in winter, and sending a cow to grass in good condition, is now generally understood; but the defect in practice is, that what can be afforded to the cows in this way is given only while they are in milk, or when they calve. The return is, indeed, rendered more immediate, but it would be still more advantageous if a fair portion of the proper winter's food were given to the dairy cows after they were dry of milk.

OSAGE ORANGE.—Can any one tell us more of this tree? We are desirous of having our columns made the vehicle for communicating information of any material that may be made valuable for hedging. This tree, from the following account cut from an old No. of the Hartford Silk Culturist, seems well adapted for that purpose; and if any has been used in Missouri or elsewhere, it would be a great favor to have an account of it furnished us.

"The Osage Orange is a native of Arkansas and Missouri, where it rises in an elegant proportion to 60 feet. The tree is deciduous and hardy, as it has endured the rigors of the last seven winters near Boston, and is one of the most ornamental of all our native trees. The leaves are oval, lanceolate, of a beautiful shining green, and bears a striking resemblance to those of the orange, and is armed with long sharp spines. The trees are decious, or some male and some female, therefore requiring more than one tree for the production of fruit; but these, however, cannot be distinguished when young. The fruit is beautiful, but not eatable; of the size of a large orenge, of a golden color, and the tree, when laden with the fruit, is splendid. The wood produces a fine yellow dye. It is valuable for furniture, as it receives the finest polish. It is remarkably tough, strong, and elastic, and is therefore called Bow Wood, being preferred by the Indians to all other woods for bows. It is also supposed to be the most durable timber in the world, and for ship building is esteemed preferable to live oak.

Even the leaves so beautiful; may, it appears, be converted to a very important use, since, according to a memoir lately presented to the French Institute, they are valuable as food for silk worms.

On the best authority, I am assured that the trees of the Osage Orange, when set at the distance of fifteen inches asunder, make the most beautiful, as well as the strongest hedge fence in the world, through which neither men nor animals can pass."

In order to furnish our readers with the greatest amount of matter our limits will permit, the original articles will hereafter not be "leaded," (spaced between the lines,) as is usually the case. We shall be particular, *very particular*, to give credit for every thing extracted from other papers or works, so that all not credited to some other publication, will be known as original; unless it be some short sentence, receipe, or something of the kind, originated no one can tell where.

ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—At a meeting of the friends of agriculture, held pursuant to adjournment in the Senate chamber, on Tuesday evo the 12th Jan., in the absence of the former chairman, Col. James M. Bradford of Sangamon, was called to the chair, and John S. Wright of Cook, appointed Secretary.

Mr. Brown of Sangamon, Chairman of the Committee appointed at a previous meeting to draft a Constitution, made a report, which, after being read, was accepted.

The blanks were then filled, and after a careful examination and discussion of its several parts, upon motion of Capt Henry of Morgan, it was adopted, and presented for signatures, whereupon, many of those present affixed their names.

On motion of Dr. Gray of Sangamon,

Resolved, That the evening being so far spent in the discussion and adoption of the constitution, Judge Robins be requested to defer the delivery of his address, till the next meeting.

On motion of Mr. Polk of Sangamon.

Resolved, That the Secretary be appointed to procure subscribers to the constitution, and that he be authorised to obtain the aid of others.

On motion of Mr. Brown.

Resolved, That the chair appoint a committee of five to nominate officers for this Society, to report at the next meeting. Messrs Brown of Sangamon, Ross of Pike, Henry of Morgan, Oakley of Tazewell, and Caton of Will, were appointed.

On motion of Mr. Canfield of Sangamon.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and furnished the papers of this city for publication, and that the papers throughout the State be requested to publish the Constitution, together with the proceedings of these meetings, and of the Society.

The Society then adjourned, to meet in the Senate chamber on Friday the 15th Jan., at half-past six o'clock, P. M.

JAS. M. BRADFORD.
Chairman.

JOHN S. WRIGHT, Sec'y.

PREAMBLE.

The State of Illinois being eminently an agricultural State, second to none in its adaptation to agricultural pursuits in their various forms; and as, therefore, most of its citizens may be expected to become farmers, the advancement of the agricultural interest is a matter of paramount importance. Agricultural Societies having been found to be one of the most efficient means for the attainment of this object: and as "In union is strength," the following Constitution is adopted with a view of benefiting and increasing such organizations throughout our State, and creating a bond of union between them, thereby effecting a concentration of effort in the great cause—the most important, and the basis of all others.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called "The Illinois State Agricultural Society."

ART. II.

Sec. 1. The object of this Society shall be to procure and disseminate agricultural information; to procure the organization of auxiliary societies throughout the State, and by inducing systematic and united efforts of those interested, to promote in every practicable manner, improvements in scientific and practical agriculture and horticulture, and in our breeds of animals.

2. Committees may be appointed to investigate and report upon any given subject; and subjects shall be proposed at the regular meetings of the Society, or oftener, on which communications are solicited; and diplomas, medals, or other honorary marks of distinction, may be offered to the best writers, to be adjudged by the Judicial committees.

3. Inventors of valuable labor-saving implements of husbandry, and also superior farming and stock-raising, shall be encouraged by the Society, by the adoption of favorable resolutions or the awarding of premiums.

4. Reports shall be published by the Society, at least as often as every regular meeting, containing the prize essays, a tabular statement of the amount and value of the several kinds of imports and exports of each county, so far as can be ascertained; a full account of its proceedings, and any other matters the Society shall deem expedient.

ART. III.

Sec. 1. There shall be a President, eighteen Vice-Presidents, two to each Judicial circuit, a Corresponding and a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, an Executive Committee, of five members, besides the President and Recording

Secretary, and Judicial and Examining Committees of three members each; which officers and committees shall be appointed at each regular meeting of the Society, and hold their offices till others are elected in their places.

2. Elections shall be by *viva voce* vote upon the nominations of the Nominating committee.

ART. IV.

Sec. 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society, and at the opening of the meeting appoint a Nominating committee of five members, whose duties shall be to report nominations of members to office, and to fill committees created by the Society.

2. During a recess he may appoint officers or committee-men where vacancies have occurred, and shall be a member *ex officio* of the committee.

3. When disbursements are necessary, he shall make his draft on the Treasurer for the amount.

ART. V.

Sec. 1. In the absence of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents, as they shall determine shall take the Chair, and when the Vice-Presidents shall be absent, a President *pro tem.* shall be appointed.

2. The Vice-Presidents shall see that addresses upon agricultural subjects are delivered in each county, and agricultural societies organized, so far as practicable, in their several districts.

ART. VI.

Sec. 1. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, which shall ever be open for the examination of members.

2. He shall prepare all papers for publication, and attend to their distribution under such regulations as the Society shall impose.

3. He shall make a report at each regular meeting of the condition of the Society, its wants and prospects, and of any matter that may be of interest to the agricultural community.

4. He shall receive no salary, but the necessary expenses of his office shall be defrayed by the Society; and as a compensation for his services, he shall be permitted to print at his own expense, an extra number of copies of the publications of the Society, or such of them as he may desire to be sold on his own account.

ART. VII.

Sec. 1. The Recording Secretary shall keep a full record of the proceedings of the Society; of the transactions of the Executive committee, of which he shall be a member *ex officio*; of the appointments by the President, and of any matter the President or Corresponding Secretary shall direct.

2. He shall attend to the distribution of premiums, recording the same, and shall see that the proper notice is published of the subjects for the best essays upon which prizes are offered, and also of the meetings of the Society.

3. He shall keep a record of all Auxiliary Societies, of their officers, and of any information concerning them, that it would be desirable to preserve; and shall preserve on file all reports, essays, or other documents belonging to the Society; and shall report at each regular meeting or oftener, if he shall have any information of interest to communicate.

4. The books and papers of the Society may at any time be inspected by any of the members.

ART. VIII.

The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the Society, and shall make disbursements upon the order of the President, keeping an account of all receipts and expenditures, and shall make a full financial report at each regular meeting, and whenever else the Society may call for one.

ART. IX.

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee may hold meetings, and give such notice of them as they please, and four members shall constitute a quorum.

2. They may call meetings of the Society by giving public notice thereof in the newspapers, requesting papers throughout the State to insert the notice.

3. They shall decide as to the claims of competitors for prizes offered by the Society, or perform the duties of an Examining Committee, whenever a Committee, to whom the subject has been referred, shall be unable to decide.

4. During the recess they may create Judicial or Examining Committees, giving out subjects for the best essays upon which prizes will be given.

5. They shall determine what diplomas, medals, or other honorary marks of distinction, shall be offered for the best essays upon subjects proposed by the Society, and shall perform such other duties as may be provided in the by-laws, or required of them from time to time by the Society.

ART. X.

Sec. 1. A Judicial Committee shall be appointed to each subject for the best assay upon which the Society shall have offered a premium, whose duties shall be to examine all essays and decide upon their merits, instructing the Recording Secretary to whom to deliver the premiums.

ART. XI.

When an inventor or proprietor of an instrument of husbandry or other object, of a field of grain, or of a farm, shall furnish the President or Society with a description thereof, an Examining Committee of three members shall be appointed to examine it thoroughly, and report thereon to the Society or Executive Committee, as soon as possible.

ART. XII.

Sec. 1. The regular meetings of the Society shall be held in Springfield bi-ennially, on the second Wednesday in December, to continue during the pleasure of the members present, and meetings of the Society may be held at other times and places as the Executive Committee may direct.

2. Nine members present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ART. XIII.

Any person may become a member by subscribing to the Constitution, and by the payment of one dollar annually; and the payment of 20 dollars at any one time shall constitute a person a life member.

ART. XIV.

Persons residing out of the State may be elected honorary members by a vote of the Society, upon the nomination of the Executive Committee, and officers of Auxiliary Societies shall be honorary members and shall be entitled to all the privileges of members, except voting for officers, or the amendment of the Constitution and by-laws.

ART. XV.

Sec. 1. Societies becoming Auxiliary, may adopt such regulations for their government as they may prefer; and those paying not less than ten dollars, may send three delegates from each county, who shall not of necessity be members of this Society, and as delegates shall enjoy all the privileges of members.

2. Each Auxiliary Society shall, and other Societies may report at each regular meeting, or oftener if required, and among other subjects, its reports shall embrace, so far as can be ascertained, the value and the several amounts of the different agricultural products, the various kinds of stock, and of domestic manufactures of its district, and also the exports of the same, and its imports.

ART. XVI.

This Constitution may be amended by a vote of the Society, upon a recommendation of the Executive Committee.

THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Having recently conversed with several individuals from different counties, we find the plan of the U. A. S. is not understood. The great complaint is, it embraces too large a district; and the members residing at a remote distance from the centre of operations, will reap little or no benefit from their payments. It is to be regretted that this feeling should prevail so extensively, and accounts for the limited number of subscribers to the capital stock in some of the counties. Where farmers and others have become acquainted with the design, subscriptions have been freely made.

There are many advantages that will result from having so large a district embraced in the bounds of the Society, and we can see no evil. If there are evils attending the plan, will those discovering them, please communicate them to us, and they shall be published; for the Society will be as desirous to make improvements in its plan of operations as any thing else, and there cannot be improvements unless the faults are manifested.

In the first place, the expenses necessarily attendant upon an organization of this kind are divided among a greater number. So with the farm. When the farmers are able to purchase one for experimenting, keeping and raising stock, there can be a larger one procured—the means will authorize more thorough and more expensive experiments, than if there were but few individuals united in sustaining it, and the benefits will be equally available to all; and in the purchase of blood stock, were there but one county engaged in it, but a limited variety of animals could be procured—the means would not be adequate. But with the enterprise, intelligence and liberality embraced in these seven counties, may we not expect ere long to see every variety of pure blood of cattle, sheep, hogs, &c., that are adapted to this region, brought in for the use of the members; and in time, each county, and the different settlements, will enjoy the use of them all. One county will not, in a single season have the use of all kinds, nor would it if alone in the enterprise. But if one season, a fine Durham bull were placed in one county for a time, and then removed to another county and a Devonshire substituted; by pursuing that course the round would be accomplished, and each county would enjoy the use of many varieties of improved stock, and farmers would be able to select those they preferred. This could not be expected from an organization in a single county, at least in these hard times.

To remedy the inconvenience that farmers would be at to attend annual fairs if they were all held in the centre, it is expected County Societies will be organized auxiliary to the U. A. S., and if advisable they could each hold fairs. Then once in two or three years it might be desirable to have a fair near the centre, on the farm perhaps, and a sufficient interest could doubtless be awakened to induce a general attendance. The effect of the emulation such a fair would excite, not only between individuals, but between the several counties, would be most effective in the improvement of stock, &c.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST.

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

JANUARY, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

JOHN DEAN CATON,	of Will Co.,	Pres.
LEVI HILLS,	" La Salle "	Vice Pres.
HOLDER SISSON,	" Will "	
LEWIS ELLSWORTH,	" Du Page "	
JAS. T. GIFFORD,	" Kane "	
SETH WASHBURN,	" McHenry "	
WM. B. OGDEN,	" Cook "	Treas.
JNO. S. WRIGHT,	" do.	Rec. Sec.
Do.	" do.	Cor. Sec.

We commence this new series with far different feelings from those with which the paper was commenced. It was with fear and trembling the enterprise was entered upon, but it is continued with the most perfect assurance of success. An edition of a little less than a thousand copies of the first No was printed, which we thought would be sufficient to supply the district of the Society, and furnish two or three hundred to circulate elsewhere. But we find the paper "takes" far better than was anticipated; and the friends of the Society have advised us to commence a new series, that all might be supplied, and that we might be able to furnish back Nos. as subsequent subscribers would require. We therefore print 2500 copies; but we would not have our friends suppose that they are all subscribed for, lest they should think it unnecessary to aid us farther. Far from it; otherwise we should appear in a much improved form. We expect our subscription list will amount to 2500 within the year, and we will then publish in pamphlet form, furnishing a much greater amount of matter.

Let it be remembered, the Society publishes the Union Agriculturist not for its own profit; for it is the determination to use up the receipts for the paper in its improvement—but for the benefit of the West.

Were we to judge by the letters received, we should expect the interest of the farmers throughout the West, would never subside, but we fear when the novelty of the paper is somewhat worn off, that many who have made the resolution, and even a promise, to become constant contributors will forget us. May our fears prove groundless. Let each one look out for himself and not another.

NOTES FROM OUR MEMORANDUM BOOK.—Mr. Wm Yates, of Carrollton, Greene co., showed us some potatoes raised by a neighbor of his, called there the Stock potato, because of their fitness for feeding stock. They are called in Kentucky, where they are extensively raised, the Malden potato, and also the Mountain Sprout.

It is a long slender potato, sometimes, Mr. Y. says, measuring 18 inches in length, very full of eyes, and consequently very productive, yielding with little trouble, 500 bushels to the acre. They are easily dug, as they grow very compact, like the Rohan. Their being so slender, saves the trouble of cutting them up for stock, which is quite an object, where farmers prefer feeding raw to cooked food.

It is a good potato for table use in the spring, though one end is a little watery.

Have farmers in this vicinity raised any, so that seed can be procured, if it should be wanted?

Since writing the above, we have seen a short article in the Quincy Argus; commendatory of a "long red" potato, which is probably the same kind.

Mr. Canfield, of Springfield, says—"Hogs to travel should have a straight hind leg, with the muscle large and full, quite down to the hock, or knee joint. With this shape, any hog that is free from bruises, will travel any required distance."

Mr. C. ascertained this fact by observation, in driving hogs this fall from Springfield to Alton.

It has reason on the face of it. A straight stick will sustain a weight, that a crooked one would immediately give way under. And muscle is necessary of course to continued labor. Farmers residing some distance from market, would do well to pay attention to this point, in selecting their breeders. In driving hogs to market, it is no trifling expense to have to provide teams to carry those that give out by the way; and attending to this point among others in the selection of breeders, would probably in a few generations, furnish a breed perfect in this respect.

W. S. Lincoln, Esq., of Alton, has a thorough-bred Durham cow, of imported stock, a two years old heifer, half Durham, half Ayrshire; and a bull-calf six months old, one-fourth Durham, three-fourths Ayrshire. It is the only Ayrshire stock we know of in the State. The calf is a bright cherry red, without a spot, and promises to be a fine animal. They do not appear to very good advantage, not having recruited since their severe voyage from Boston via New Orleans. The cow is the one that jumped from the dock at Boston, from fright at a rail-road car a few months since.

ANALYSIS OF SOIL.—We should like much to receive for publication, analyses of soils from different parts of our State and of the West. Doubtless the prairies possess a much greater portion than other soils, of *gerine*, the chief fertilising ingredient, but we would like to see it stated, with the other ingredients in comparison with that of other soils.

If there are scientific men who are willing to be at the trouble of analysing specimens that may be sent them, we would like to have them furnish their names and address. It is a simple and easy operation to those understanding it, and we hope to hear of individuals in various parts of the State, who will undertake it.

Some persons would be glad to have the full proceedings of the U. A. S., before them for reference. We shall therefore give in this No. the minutes of the first meeting, and of others in subsequent Nos.

The first Nos. of the new Vols. of the ALBANY CULTIVATOR and NEW GENESSEE FARMER have been received; and we have also seen the beautiful prospectus of each. They do credit to those spirited and useful publications. Where farmers are able to take two, or more agricultural papers, these should receive their subscriptions; and the great circulation of the Cultivator in Ills. (over 500) shows others are of our opinion. But where a farmer can take but one, we contend his patronage should be given to one peculiarly Western. Our sheet will be confined to matter, so far as it can be procured, prepared expressly for the West, except recipes, and things of a similar character; whereas other papers will be deficient in such information, and contain much that to a Western farmer will be utterly useless.

THE KENTUCKY FARMER, is another valuable agricultural paper, especially to farmers in the Southern part of Illinois and Indiana. We appreciate his compliment paid us, and would return it if we knew how; but it is out of our line. All we can say is, that of the few agricultural papers we preserve on file, that is one. If we had been publishing long enough to make the offer, we would offer to exchange Vols., and consider ourselves great gainers by the bargain.

REMOVING TREES.—We are pleased with a plan which a friend has adopted to insure the growth of some evergreens; he had been unsuccessful in his former attempts, and had lost many by transplanting, but by practising the following mode, he has completely succeeded in all his late operations. He went, about this time last year, and dug a trench around several evergreens of large size, thus making a circular ditch of some three or four feet in diameter; he then dug holes where he designed to plant them, taking care that these should be sufficiently large and deep to receive with ease the whole of the root of the tree, with the adhering lump of earth. After the cold weather had set in, and the ground had become frozen, he went with a lever and took up the trees; a large clump of earth adhered to the roots, which nearly filled the holes that he had made, and by filling in the spaces with fresh mould, he so fixed them in their places that they started out in the spring as though they had never been disturbed or removed from the places of their birth. With this precaution, very large trees, both evergreen and deciduous, may be removed with perfect safety, and thus may we create around our dwellings a plantation, which, in the ordinary mode of planting, would require half a life to come to such perfection. This is the time to put the thing into practice; no one assuredly will neglect the opportunity.—*Maine Farmer*

Desire not either the wise man or the fool for thine enemy; but guard thyself equally from the cunning of the wise man, and the ignorance of the fool.

COMMUNICATIONS.

FORT HILL, NAPERVILLE, Dec. 23, 1841.

Mr. Editor;—You have ere this perhaps come to the conclusion that I have forgotten that such a paper as The Union Agriculturist exists, or that I am no friend to its existence. I confess that I have been very remiss; it has not however been through indifference to its prosperity. I fully believe in the utility of agricultural papers, and that one published in our midst can be made highly beneficial to us as an agricultural community. To make it useful practical farmers should contribute to its columns, for it is practical knowledge we want, not theoretical.

You may be assured that the paper will receive my hearty support, so long as it is worthy of the support of any farmer.

I noticed in No. 2, of the U. A., the cut designed to be a likeness of J. H. Leavenworth's Berkshire Boar, "*Black Hawk*," which I am sorry to say does that noble animal great injustice. I have seen him at two different times, and I am unable to discover in the cut any likeness or resemblance to the original. I am aware it is very difficult to form perfect cuts of any animal, still the prominent features should appear. Cuts are a valuable addition to agricultural papers if correct, for it enables the public to judge of the animals represented, as far as their good or bad points are concerned; and that you will be able to get cuts well executed in your city, there is no doubt. It may require some practice to transfer from a pencil sketch to the block perfectly.

Will some one who has experience on the subject state in the U. A., the most proper time in the Spring for sowing wheat, and the best variety of spring wheat—and for this region.

Since the publication of Mr. Vial's 5 6-16, lbs. Rohan potatoes I suppose it is useless for those of less weight to show themselves; I will however state what my experience has been with the Rohans. Capt. Sleight of this place gave me three small Rohan potatoes weighing less than one lb. in all, which I planted in April last. In October I dug six bushels over measure, the product of the above named three potatoes. The largest weighed 4 11-16 lbs.; very many weighed over three lbs.—I propose to friend Vial to try his speed with me next year on the Rohans. Each to weigh and plant sixty lbs. of the said potatoes and the one getting the greatest number of lbs. from the seed planted, shall be entitled to a Vol. of The Union Agriculturist well bound, at the expense of the other; the weighing planting and harvesting to be performed in the presence of some person as witness.

If Mr. Vial accepts my proposition he will please publish his acceptance in the U. A.

Will the Editor please state who are the Committee on the alteration of the Charter of the U. A. as some may have sugestions to make to the committee on the subject.

Respectfully Yours,
LEWIS ELLSWORTH.

P. S.—Enclosed you will find $16 for which you will please forward The U. A. from No. 1 to the following named persons. Will send you others soon.

NOTE. In another column, we have endeavored to impress upon the minds of *practical farmers*, the absolute necessity of their contributing to this paper, if they would have it worth anything. We are glad to have the aid of Mr. E. in this work, the most difficult portaing to the paper.

The engraving of "Black Hawk" in a former No., was, together with the drawing, executed in great haste. It should not have been inserted. An engraving is being prepared, but could not be got ready for this No. It will appear in the next, and we hope will do him better justice.

A committee should have been appointed ere this, to examine the subject of cultivating Spring wheat, and report to the Society for publication in the paper: and we suppose the Pres., whose duty it was made to make the appointments, has not filled the Committee, because he has not found those who would do justice to the subject. A short article in another column, calling for information, was set up in type before Mr E's. letter was read. But a double request can do no harm. It is a subject of importance, and we hope to receive communications immediately.

We are pleased to insert Mr. E's., challenge and doubt not Mr. Vial will accept it. We hope to receive many such for insertion. It is one of the best methods of testing the value of a particular root or grain.

The Committee to procure alterations in the Charter, was but recently filled by the President. He has appointed E. Peck, Hiram Hugnanin and John S. Wright. Communications addressed to Mr. Peck, at Springfield, *if sent soon*, would be attended to. A bill has been prepared, and probably introduced containing the following provisions—that the meetings of the Society may be held and such notice given, as may be provided in the by-laws. That such a number of Trustees and other officers may be elected, and from such a part of the district, as the Society shall direct in the by-laws. That when specific powers are granted to the Trustees, the same may be executed by the Society, or delegated to Committees, or the Trustees, as the Society shall direct. That the stock and property of the Society shall be exempt from taxation, and that the Society may become auxiliary to the Illinois State Agricultural Society.

The bill will be, or has been referred to some of the Committees; and if other alterations can be made with advantage, they should be named to Mr. Peck immediately. While the bill is before the Committee, alterations can be made in it with ease. We again print the Act of incorporation, and would request friends of the Society to examine it carefully and suggest alterations, that the Legislature may not be again troubled with our requests.

The P. S. we would commend to the attention of our friends, with the request that they would do likewise.

The following letter was received from Mr. R., in prompt reply to a note addressed him, asking the aid of his pen for our paper. He will doubtless be surprised to see it published, and may think the liberty unwarrantable; but it contains several ideas which should be indelibly impressed upon the minds of all,—especially of those about entering upon, or who have just commenced the active duties of life. This is the principal reason for publishing it. Another, is the kind word of encouragement, which will be gratefully received by all the members of the Society, and will tend to increase their interest in *their* paper, and incite them to greater exertions in its behalf. Therefore, for the good of the cause, he will excuse the liberty taken.

We shall hope often to receive his aid, and only regret that he is not within our corporate limits. But his residence is not at so great a distance as to prevent intercourse, and we shall hope ere long to see him among us. He will find in our district those who will most heartily "fellowship all laborers in the good cause."

Some of Mr. R.'s observations we shall recur to in subsequent numbers, when more at leisure. For the present, we would only call particular attention to his remarks with regard to communicating agricultural information. If the farmers in the West generally, would make this their organ for communicating their plans, the results of experiments, &c, and be careful to note down every thing of interest, and at their leisure send it us for publication, how interesting and profitable would they soon make this paper. Reader, will *you* not do this?

LAKE C. H., Ia., Oct. 20, 1840.

Dear Sir,—You are, no doubt, as you say, an entire stranger to me—for had you been acquainted with me, you would never have offered an apology for addressing me upon any subject coonected with agricultural improvement.

I fellowship all the laborers in the good cause, as worthy brothers; I stop not to make the cold inquiry, "what is his politics, or religion, or how much money is he worth." It is enough for me to know that he seeks to elevate that moral structure of society upon which the eternal prosperity and happiness of the American Republic must ever rest.

Every thing that tends to improve the agricultural community, improves every other class; for so long as our country, particularly the "Great West," is composed of a soil "rich as garden mould," so long will a large portion of the entire population remain cultivators. In fact, nearly the entire mass of all the other classes spring from this.

We have but very few merchants, mechanics, sailors, soldiers, priests, lawyers or loafers, born such—nearly the whole spring from the great stock of farmers.

And why have they left the ways of their father's household? Simply because a false estimation has been put upon that class of society. But a change is now coming over the spirit of the people—agricultural papers are springing up in every State—many of the most talented men in the country have enlisted in the cause, and many more will join as it progresses, till the farmer is taught to know and appreciate himself;—many will discover that they too possess talents to make themselves interesting to their fellow men.

You compliment me upon my letters published in the Cultivator. I have received many letters written in the same tenor. Until quite lately I have thought them all unmeaning flattery; I have now concluded to give more candor for sincerity. But I have also concluded that a large mass of my fellow-laborers possess the same power to communicate interesting matter to the public, if they could only be roused up. Every farmer's son possesses all the advantages for education that I ever enjoyed, being self-taught.

Nothing is so well calculated to rouse up latent energies in the farmer's family, as an agricultural paper, published in his own vicinity, edited perhaps by an old acquaintance, among the correspondents of which he sees familiar names, writing upon familiar subjects, conveying to him some new and useful ideas, by which he is also prompted to convey some useful discovery that he has made, through the same channel; until the little spark, scarcely perceptible at first, soon rises until "The Prairies are on fire."

Now, my friend, I hope you will look ahead beyond the beginning, until your imagination warms in the blaze that I hope to see you kindle. If such fuel as I am able to furnish, will help you to illume our Western world, I will occasionally bestow it.

Although not exactly within the legal limits of your charter, I am within the limits of that great charter which I wish to see binding all this agricultural community together. I am anxious that you should prosper.

Your paper, if well conducted, will add more wealth to the country around Chicago, than would all the types that you will ever use, if you could convert them into silver dollars the moment after. And not only wealth, but what is far better, *happiness*.

I am pleased that you have it in your power to use pictoral embellishments, and hope you will freely use them. Such are the first articles read. It also induces children to read, which is a very important item.

I do most earnestly hope that many may see the importance of your undertaking, and tender their support; not only farmers, but every other class. Let them remember the Earth is their mother, and the more fruitful she is made, the more can all her children enjoy her fruits.

My engagements are already somewhat numerous, but I hope you will be able to hear from me as often as you or your readers will desire.

With sentiments of esteem towards a fellow-laborer, I am, respectfully, your friend,
SOLON ROBINSON.

SILK CULTURE—No. I.

ELGIN, Kane Co., Ill., 25th Dec., 1840.

Mr. Editor,—At a late meeting of the U. A. S., held at Naperville, I was associated with the Rev. J. Foster as a committee, "to report on the different kinds of *Mulberry*—that best suited to the West, and the best method of manufacturing raw silk, adapted particularly to Western farmers." I regret that I have not had an opportunity to confer with that gentleman upon this subject. I shall not, therefore, in this article, attempt a formal report, but offer a few observations on the first division of the subject, founded chiefly upon my own experiments in the mulberry culture.

The mulberry orchard being the basis of the silk business, the culturist should ascertain and procure the best varieties, and adopt such methods of growing them as will ensure the greatest amount of foliage in the shortest space of time. I have been engaged in growing trees and feeding silk worms 4 or 5 years. During this period, I have cultivated the white or Italian mulberry, the Morus Multicaulis, the Canton or Chinese, and the Expansa. These, with the Brussa and Alpine, are unquestionably the best varieties.

The Italian was introduced into this country by the first settlers; is hardy and grows vigorously in this latitude, and much farther North, attaining the height of 35 feet. It is the parent of nearly all the other varieties, and till within the last 10 or 12 years, was the only tree cultivated in our country for feeding silkworms. The timber is equal to that of the Locust for ship-building and fence posts. It is still cultivated, and should be, by silk-growers, for standard trees around the mulberry patch and other fields, and for hedging. It is reared from seed, cuttings and layers.

The Expansa is a variety brought from France. It is said to be a hybrid, produced by a union of the Italian and Multicaulis. I purchased this tree of Mr. Prince & Son, Flushing, N. Y., in 1836. It is as hardy as our forest trees, grows with astonishing vigor, and produces large heavy shining leaves, three times as large as the Italian. It cannot be propagated except by grafting. For standard trees I consider this one of the very best varieties.

The Canton or Chinese is a dwarf mulberry of bushy form and large leaves, easily propagated by cuttings and layers, but rather tender.

The Brussa and Alpina are large trees, very hardy and easily propagated by cuttings and layers. These are thought by some to be the proper trees to be relied upon for making silk in our latitude. They ought by no means to be excluded, but should be cultivated with the above varieties, to a considerable extent. But my own experiments and observation justify me in saying, that the best, decidedly, of all the mulberry family in our country, is the genuine

Morus Multicaulis. I am well aware of all that has been said for and against this extraordinary variety. I have witnessed the feverish excitement of some, the ridicule of others, the prejudice of many, and the wonder of all, that have accompanied and been consequent upon its marvellous multiplication and spread through the country; yet, in all candour it may be said, that this public generally are unacquainted with its real merits. It is, or may be, at least as valuable to the Middle and Western States, as the cotton plant is to the South, and claims similar attention. As an ornamental shrub, it is unsurpassed in the luxuriance and beauty of its enormous foliage; and as affording, in the shortest time, the greatest quantity and best quality of food for the silk worm, it is unequalled. It originated in the elevated regions of China, and "to this tree the disciples of Confucius acknowledge their indebtness for the prosperity and solidity of their empire." It was brought from Manilla to France in 1821, and thence to this country in '27 or '28. The original tree is in the possession of G. B. Smith, Esq., Baltimore, continuing to flourish with unabated vigor, unmjured by the vicissitudes of our climate. It is propagated more easily than any other variety, has larger leaves; and commends itself to silk culturists above all others, for this additional and important reason—that it enables him to commence feeding silk worms profitably the first season—whereas, all other varieties require several years growth before they will afford a sufficient amount of foliage for profitable feeding.

The Multicaulis is not so hardy as most other varieties, but is sufficiently so to answer all practical purposes. On dry elevated ground, with a Northern and North-Eastern exposure, it will endure the severest cold of our Northern winters. Indeed I have never known it injured by cold, however intense. The only danger to be apprehended is from a burning sun in March or early in April. In low situations, and especially where the inclination is to the South and South-West, premature hot weather in the spring will kill it to the ground. But should the tree be killed to the ground annually, this would scarcely be an objection; for the roots will throw up vigorous sprouts, which will afford an equal amount of foliage. So much confidence have I in the capability of the tree to endure our winters, that I have now standing in the field nearly my whole crop, amounting to about ten thousand. The trees in this region which were exposed last winter, were not much injured, so far as I have learned, and the present number standing out, and distributed mostly in small parcels through three or four of the adjoining counties, it is believed exceed 100,000, besides an equal amount of other kinds; constituting already in this new country, a substantial basis for the very pleasant and very lucrative business of producing silk.

Should I resume the subject hereafter, I will treat of the Mulberry field, the Cocoonry and the Filature, showing that the business is simple, practicable and profitable, commending itself to the candid examination of our intelligent and enterprising citizens, and wanting an early and thorough trial.

B. TRUESDELL.

Note.—We hope Mr. T. will continue to furnish us with articles upon this subject, and that No. 2, will be received in season for the next number of the paper.

The following we insert with pleasure. One great object in commencing this paper, was to furnish a medium for making such requests, and receiving replies. Let not those possessing the requisite information, long delay furnishing it to the "Young Farmer."

The only objection we make to the communication, is writing over a fictitious signature. So far as possible, we hope contributors will allow us to insert their names in full.

"Will red clover do well on the Prairie soil? What is the expense of fattening pork, under favorable circumstances, with suitable conveniences?

Is it best to sow winter wheat *very* early—say in July or August?"

There are those who have learned by experience in reference to some one or all of the above products; and I presume others would like to profit by that experience, rather than go through a course of individual experiment.

Will some one who knows, be so good as to inform me—and others—through the columns of the Union Agriculturist, what will be my prospect of success in sowing red clover seed on "old land" in good condition, with any directions that may be thought useful. And I wish to know the expense of fattening pork, with convenient pens, root steamer or boiler, using also corn on the cob, or ground. There are some who have fattened considerable 'lots' of pork with the above food and fixtures, whose statements would be good data on which to found plans and hopes for the future.

There are also some who have sown wheat as early as July, and others as late as the frost would permit. It would be gratifying to me to know the results of their experiments, and I think useful to many if made public. Winter wheat is one of the most important and precarious of our productions, and there exists a great diversity of opinion as to the best time to

sow and cultivate it, even among the oldest and best of our farmers.

I am happy to know there is a convenient and proper medium, (the Union Agriculturist,) through which the Prairie farmer may make known the result of his experiments or labors, thus conferring a benefit on others, especially "new comers," and in turn, himself receive useful information from others.

A YOUNG FARMER.

EAST DU PAGE, 2d Jan., 1841.

To the Editor of the Union Agriculturist.

I will give you a statement of the product of the ear of "Chinese tree corn," which you gave me last spring. I planted it about four feet apart each way, two kernels in a hill, occupying some ten or eleven rods of ground.

It was rich ground; the corn grew very thick, sending out numerous second stalks, as I call them, resembling suckers, only they were almost as large as the main stalk, having one, two, or three ears on them; the main stalks having two and upwards, all of which ripened in good season, a little earlier than the common field corn, "red cob, dent," producing about nine and a half bushels of ears of good sound corn. I did not find one ear not fully ripe.

The worms threatened to destroy it entirely, and did some hills—in others one of the stalks; but in a short time there seemed to be none missing. It was too thick—a half dozen stalks in a hill. I think it would have produced more had the second stalks been taken off, or had it been planted further apart.

I consider it a valuable kind of corn for the rich Prairie soil, and so do those who have seen it, generally wishing to obtain some of it for seed. It will probably easily yield one hundred bushels to the acre. I feel delicate about recommending it highly, as it has been so often condemned at the East, where the climate and soil are less favorable to its luxuriant growth, but I would say try a little. The ears grow on side stalks or stems, which run out two feet from the main stalk. Some of it may be seen or obtained at Mr. Hooker's grocery, or at Farnsworth & Stone's, opposite the Tremont House.—You will use this *long* statement as you please.

From one Rohen potatoe, about the size of a goose egg, I obtained about two bushels of potatoes, many of which were large

H. M. LYMAN.

PROTECTION OF CATTLE.—*Kindness to Animals is a Christian duty.*—Cattle whose bellies are kept well filled, have an active, vigorous circulation of the blood, which keeps them warm during the inclement winter season, provided they have access to an open shed to protect them from wet. It is much to be regretted, that so many barn-yards are destitute of open sheds, to furnish protection to cattle.—Those animals which are furnished with warm stables during the night, suffer much more from want of protection from wet during the day-time, than if they were exposed night and day to the elements. An advantage of no trifling amount also, arises from open sheds in a barn yard, protecting the manure under them from being bleached by rains, which depreciates its value one half. An accurate experiment has been made by an intelligent farmer on this subject, which resulted in proving that one load of manure which was protected in this manner, goes as far as two loads which had lain exposed to all the rains of the season. A rough shed costs but a small sum, and it matters not how cheap and rough it is made, so that stock can be kept dry under it.

Try it; go to work and erect one yet, before winter; it can be done in a day or two, at a very inconsiderable outlay, and it will pay for itself, with a hundred per cent. profit, before this time twelvemonth.

Have you water in your barn-yard for your stock, or do you permit your cattle to wander abroad for several hours every day, in pursuit of it elsewhere? If you have not, turn to page 314, Vol. 4, Farmer's Cabinet, and read, "A penny saved, is two pence earned, &c." then think and act, without a day's delay, if you desire to thrive. But if you don't wish to improve your condition, go on in the old way, and let your stock get drink where they can find it, and drop their manure where it will be a nuisance rather than a benefit, for this is the plan pursued by all careless, lazy farmers; and they are uniformly rewarded according to their works.—*Far. Cabinet.*

Do injury to none, for by injuring others, you teach others to injure you. Always remember innocency—she is our best guard, and your integrity will be a coat of mail to you.

As they who for every slight infirmity take physic to regain the health, do rather impair it; so they who for every trifle are eager to vindicate their character, rather weaken it.

A Price Current of Chicago prices will be prepared for the next number.

USEFUL RECIPES.

STIFLE.—The following receipt for curing this disease, is given by a correspondent of the Cultivator. He says he has sold the receipt for many dollars, and with it cured many horses:

"A handful sumach bark and a handful of white-oak bark, boiled in a gallon of water, down to two quarts; bathe the stifle with this lotion twice a day for three days; then put on a salve made of the white of an egg and rosin, and bathe the same in with a hot shovel two or three times, and the horse is cured."

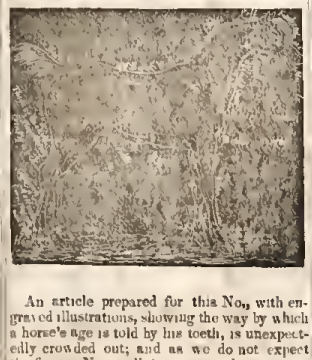
CURE FOR THE BLACK TONGUE.—A handful of fine salt rubbed upon the tongue of a horse that has the black tongue, will cure it, in at the most two applications. It is infallible, and simple and cheap enough. In 1833, I tried it upon four of my own horses, and the stage proprietors cured over 30 horses with it, without one failure.

THE POLE EVIL is generally the result of a bruise on the top of the horse's head, which produces a mass of corrupt flesh that keeps continually increasing for months. For a number of months I have known horses to be afflicted with it before dying. They lose their appetite, become excessively weak, and pine away and die under its affliction. My remedy is simply this:

"Cut open the pipe always found in this sore sufficient to hold a piece of arsenic of the size of a kernel of corn. Wrap the arsenic in cotton and let it remain in the pipe seven days. Wash the sore daily until cured, put grease around its outside so that the arsenic will not eat into the sound flesh."

In this way I have cured several horses after their owners had abandoned them, and restored them to their original value.

Gross Point, Cook co. *Chicago Dem.*



An article prepared for this No., with engraved illustrations, showing the way by which a horse's age is told by his teeth, is unexpectedly crowded out; and as we do not expect the former Nos. will be preserved, we insert the above cut as a substitute for the engravings of the teeth. Both contain valuable information, and such as every farmer should be possessed of. We have been surprised to find so few, even of these dealing much in horses, could tell the names of the different parts. Every young man, and older ones so far as they can, should learn them thoroughly, so that when speaking of a particular part the technical term will be given.

Extract from Mr. Biddle's Address, at a late Agricultural Exhibition in Philadelphia.

AMERICAN HORSES.—"Beginning with the highest blooded stock, I think it probable that the United States possess quite as good a race as there is in Europe. The prevailing opinion is, that the Arabian horse is the original of that animal. I doubt the historical fact; but if it be so, he is the parent stock of the horse, just as the father of all apples is the Crab, which has been sweetened by cultivation into the Bellflower. Undoubtedly the Arabian has improved the English horse—has given him finer sinews, more compact bones, and greater intelligence, till the cross has become avowedly the first of his kind. The truth is that a race is but a quick succession of long jumps, and the little light Arab is out-jumped by the gigantic stride of the stronger, larger, longer-legged English horse, who has beaten him on his own sands in the East, and would distance him on any course in Europe. Indeed, the very first Arabian imported into England two centuries ago, called the Markham Arabian, was constantly beaten; and my impression is, that no Arabian horse ever did win a race in England. The belief of our breeders, is, that whatever good there may be in the Arabian is exceedingly slow in showing itself; that he has already given to the English horse all he can give, and that it is on the whole safer to adhere to the highest bred English stock, rather than risk its degeneracy by any inferior mixture. Our blood horses, therefore, come directly from England; and it is rather odd that the King of England's stables, while there was a king and he had stables, furnished the highest priced horses for Republican America. Of the comparative estimation of the English and Arabian horse, we have lately seen a striking example. The Imaum of Muscat sent to the President of the United States two Arabian horses, which, from the character of the giver, we are bound to presume were of the highest class. These horses were sold at public auction, and no one could be found to give more for them than six hundred and fifty dollars for one, and six hundred and seventy-five for the other. Now, in the same neighborhood where these were sold, are very spirited breeders, who would not buy these Arabians, at even so low a rate, but who had actually bought from the stables of the King of England, at the price of twenty-five thousand dollars, a favorite horse, Priam, one of whose colts is in the exhibition here. Even as between the English breed and our own, the impression on this side of the water is, that for some time past the tendency of English breeding is rather to encourage speed than bottom; that their horses are becoming leggy, and that the descendants of the English stock, in this country, have more endurance, more bottom for long heats, than their English ancestors. The question, whenever it is tested, will be decided perhaps by a few seconds. This style of horse, although the use to which he is generally applied, is out of the way of the farmer, is yet very interesting to us; for his good qualities all come down through the inferior races; and the Godolphin Arabian, to which the English horse owes much of his superiority, was actually a cart-horse in Paris.

"Our ordinary race of farm horses is extremely good. The warmth and variableness of the climate have settled down the stiff and heavy frame of the European horse, and gives us a race of quick, alert animals, admirably fitted to second the activity of the farmer himself."

WISCONSIN TOBACCO.—The resources of the West are continually developing; new articles of commerce and domestic use are constantly adding to the wealth and means of the country. We are informed that a number of inhabitants on Rock River, whose graneries have been filled to overflowing for the last two years, have resolved to direct their attention to other means of obtaining profits from the produce of the soil. Accordingly, the experiment of raising tobacco has been tried the past summer, and has been found to succeed beyond expectation. The growth of the plants was astonishingly rapid, and they were brought to perfect maturity, and completely ripened about the middle of August last. Many of the leaves measured three feet in length, and 20 inches in width.—*Southport Tel.*

MEETING TO ORGANIZE THE U. A. S.—The meeting of the Trustees of the Union Agricultural Society, was held in the Court House at Joliet, on Wednesday, the 8th July, 1840, as appointed by the Commissioners. Levi Hills, of La Salle County, was appointed Chairman, and J. S. Wright, of Cook County, Secretary.

The Trustees then elected the officers of the Society by ballot, as follows:

John Dean Caton, of Will county, President; Levi Hills, of La Salle county, Lewis Ellsworth, of Du Page, James T. Gifford, of Kane, Seth Washburn, of McHenry, and Holder Sisson, of Will county, Vice Presidents; William B. Ogden, of Cook county, Treasurer, and John S. Wright, of Cook county, Corresponding and Recording Secretary.

The President, having taken the chair, called the Society to order to listen to an address from Geo. W. Hulley, Esq., of La Salle county, prepared at the solicitation of the commissioners, which was heard with great interest by the Society, and a numerous collection of the friends of agriculture.

The following resolutions were then severally presented and passed:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented the orator, for his very able and interesting address, and a copy requested for publication.

Resolved, That the Treasurer be authorized to audit the accounts for expenditures to this time, pay the same if correct, and make a report thereof at the next meeting.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Chair, to ascertain as to the practicability of establishing an Agricultural paper to be connected with the Society, the probable expense, and best means of its publication, &c., and report at the next meeting of the Society.

Lewis Ellsworth, William Gooding, and John S. Wright, were appointed.

Resolved, That William B. Ogden be requested to prepare a code of bye-laws, for the government of the Society, to be reported at the next meeting.

Resolved, That the Secretary furnish the several papers with reports of the proceedings of this meeting, with a request for their publication.

Resolved, That the meeting adjourn to meet at Naperville, when the President shall think it best to convene it.

JOHN S. WRIGHT, *Rec. Sec.*

VALUE OF TAKING AN AGRICULTURAL PAPER.—A gentleman residing not far from the limits of Maryland, to whom we have recently sold some fine animals, writes us, as the advantage of taking an agricultural journal near home, that he was on the point of sending to the eastward, where he would have paid more than double the price for the same quantity of animals. He also remarks: "I recollect too, my manager on the Ohio told me he had saved a valuable horse by some recipe in the American Farmer." Has it never occurred to the reader that in many instances he has been enabled to save the price of a dozen volumes of the paper, by the knowledge obtained from a single No. relative to the treatment of his cattle, horses, sheep, &c., or by some improved mode of operation in his pursuits? and yet how frequently it occurs that the small pittance required for a year's subscription is delayed far beyond that period, and the editor and publisher thereby deprived of the reward of their labors from the sheer neglect of those who ought to be reminded by the reception of each No., of their moral obligation to "*pay the printer.*"—*Amer. Farm.*

SMELTING OF COPPER.—The smelting of copper ore, which heretofore has been so often attempted without success, has been effected, as we understand, by Capt. J. F. O'Niel, of Mineral Point. By the assistance of an experienced copper smelter, and the construction of a new furnace on a new plan, he has become master of the art so far, that he can, with one fire, make 1280 lbs. of pure copper every 24 hours.

This discovery is but another developement of the inexhaustable resources of this mining country. Heretofore, this mineral has been shipped in large quantities to England and there smelted. This has been attended with great expense and inconvenience, which will now be avoided. The process by which the ore is smelted is simple and cheap, especially when we consider the value of the metal. A pig or bar weighing 80 lbs. is run off in the space of an hour and a half. We were present and saw the operation. The value of the pig thus made is $16, and the proceeds of the day's work amounts to $380. This is much more profitable than the smelting of lead.—*Galena Advertiser.*

WET FEET.—How often do we see people trampling about in the mud, with leather soaked through, and how often do such people when they return home, sit down by the fireside and permit their feet to dry, without changing either their stockings or shoes.—Can we then wonder at the coughing and barking, and rheumatism and inflammation, which enables the doctors to ride in their carriages? Wet feet most commonly produce affection of the throat and lungs; and when such diseases have once taken place, "the house is on fire," danger is not far off; therefore, let us entreat our readers, no matter how healthy, to guard against wet feet.—*Med. Adv.*

PILFERERS.—We would suggest to our brethren of the press, with all due deference to those possessed of experience, which we make no pretensions to, whether it is consonant with a dignified, self-respected editorial career, to use the labors of others, without acknowledging the obligation. Perhaps a little experience will so accustom us to such treatment, as to produce indifference; but at present it is very vexatious, and we had marked down some half-dozen whom we intended to bring to account, some of them even brethren in the agricultural press, of whom better things might be expected. It was with no little satisfaction that we found our sheet considered by so many worthy of extracting from; but the impression made by those refusing just acknowledgement, is probably the same upon others that it is upon us, that they could not be safely trusted with a pair of cast-off boots, and are a perfect nuisance to the editorial fraternity.

"Brethren, these things ought not so to be."

THE WORLD is like a vast sea, mankind like a vessel sailing on its tempestuous bosom.—Our prudence is its sails; the senses serve us for oars, good or bad fortune are the favorable or contrary winds, and the judgment is the rudder.

THE GREAT MAN.—The greatest man is he who chooses the right with invincible resolution; who resists the sorest temptation from within and from without; who hears the heaviest burdens cheerfully; who is calmest in storms, and most fearless under menaces and frowns; whose reliance on truth, on virtue, on God, is unfaltering.—*Channing.*

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Illinois State Education Society.—The organization of this Society, will doubtless result in great good to this State. The cause of education is one that all admit the importance of; and yet almost every one needs some stimulus to incite him to persevering exertions for its promotion. This can be afforded by means of the Society. Let auxiliaries be organized in every county, if not in smaller districts, and meetings bo held regularly, at which subjects for discussion will be proposed—such for instance as the practicability of establishing a Teacher's Seminary in Illinois; the appointment by the Legislature of a Superintendent of Common Schools; whether it be advisable to pass laws levying direct taxes to sustain Common Sebools, and many other kindred subjects. Occasional addresses too, especially if as interesting as some we heard at Springfield, would ha profitable and insure good attendance at subsequent meetings. Then, when the meetings of the State Society were held, reports could be made of the conditions of thnir schools, and much matter furnished that would be valuable to the parent Society. There is no absolute necessity that auxiliary societies be organized in order to have discussions and addresses, but it seems to ha the fashion of the day to have every thing accomplished by means of societies; and as it is an easy way of effecting systematic action, it seems desirable Education Societies should be organized throughout the State.

Had we a copy of the Constitution and list of officers, they should be inserted in this No. We hope to receive them in time for the next.

A Teacher's Seminary.—The plan proposed in the two previous Nos. of this paper, for a Normal School and Teacher's Seminary, to be established at Springfield, by using the College and Seminary funds, amounting to about $122,000, seemed to be favorably viewed by the Legislature. There were none with whom we conversed who disliked the plan; and it would seem if the members only thought their constituents would approve it, that a bill would be passed this winter, carrying the plan into effect. Let the citizens throughout the State, approving the plan, exert themselves during the coming year to acquaint their neighbors with it, and procure signatures to petitions to the Legislature, asking the adoption of the plan, or something similar, and should there be an extra session next winter, we certainly should succeed.

"A little learning is a dangerous Thing."—Then make it greater. No learning at all is surely the most dangerous thing in the world; and it is fortunate that, in this country at least, it is a danger which cannot possibly exist. After all, learning is acquired knowledge, and nothing else. A man who can read his Bible has a little learning; a man who can only plough or dig, has less; a man who can only break stones on the road, less still, but he has some. The savages in one of the islands in the South Sea, stood with great reverence round a sailor who had lighted a fire to boil some water in a saucepan, but as soon as the water began to boil, they ran away in an agony of terror. Compared with the savages, there is no boy in Europe, of the age of ten years, who may not be called learned. He has acquired a certain quantity of practical knowledge in physics; and, as this knowledge is more than instinct, it is learning; learning which differs in degree only from that which enables a chemist to separate the simple metals from soda or potash. —*Anon.*

The following views, though penned for old mother England, are applicable to the present condition of the U. S. It should be felt by all, especially our Eastern friends, that the Western immigration is not so much capital lost to the older States, but only its employment in a little different manner. The old States are not so perfectly adapted to agriculture as the new; and for many years the sparseness of population will prevent any very great attention to manufactures in the West, if indeed it will ever become an object. The super-abundant population of the East can be better employed in manufacturing than in anything else; and in fact could not be advantageously employed without them. To manufactures the old States should devote their attention, and allow the West to furnish their bread-stuffs, beef, pork, &c. in exchange for them. Such an exchange would be of mutual benefit.

We extract the following from Dr. Paley:

"Colonization.—The only view under which our subject will permit us to consider *colonization*, is in its tendency to augment the population of the parent state.—Suppose a fertile, but empty island, to lie within the reach of a country in which arts and manufactures are already established; suppose a colony sent out from such a country, to take possession of the island, and to live there under the protection and authority of their native government: the new settlers will naturally convert their labor to the cultivation of the vacant soil, and with the produce of that soil will draw a supply of manufactures from their countrymen at home. Whilst the inhabitants continue few, and lands cheap and fresh, the colonists will find it easier and more profitable to raise corn, or rear cattle, and with corn and cattle to purchase woollen cloth, for instance, or linen, than to spin or weave these articles for themselves. The mother-country, meanwhile, derives from this connection an increase both of provision and employment. It promotes at once the two great requisites upon which the facility of subsistence, and by consequence the state of population, depend,—*production* and *distribution*; and this in a manner the most direct and beneficial. No situation can be imagined more favorable to population, than that of a country which works up goods for others, whilst these others are cultivating new tracts of land for them: for as, in a genial climate, and from a fresh soil, the labor of one man will raise provision enough for ten, it is manifest that, where all are employed in agriculture, much greater a part of the produce will be spared from the consumption; and that three out of four, at least to those who are maintained by it, will reside in the country which receives the redundancy. When the new country does not remit *provision* to the old one, the advantage is less; but still the exportation of wrought goods, by whatever return they are paid for, advances population in that secondary way, in which those trades promote it that are not employed in the production of provision. Whatever prejudice, therefore, some late events have excited against schemes of colonization, the system itself is founded in apparent national utility; and what is more, upon principles favorable to the common interest of human nature; for it does not appear by what other method newly-discovered and unfrequented countries can be peopled, or during the infancy of their establishment be protected or supplied. The error which we of this nation at present lament, seems to have consisted not so much in the original formation of colonies, as in the subsequent management; in imposing restrictions too rigorous, or in continuing them too long; in not perceiving the point of time when the irresistible order and progress of human affairs demand a change of laws and policy."

Gradations of Drunkenness.—There is a Rabbinical tradition related by Fabricus, that when Noah planted the vine, Satan attended and sacrificed a sheep, a lion, an ape, and a sow. These animals were to symbolise the gradations of ebriety. When a man begins to drink he is meek and ignorant as the lamb; then becomes bold as a lion; his courage is soon transformed into the foolishness of the ape; and at last he wallows in the mire like the saw.—*Watson's Dissertations.*

An Exhortation to Farmer's Daughters.—Ours fears are, not that there are not many excellent dairy women in the land, but that the benefits of their knowledge and practice will be lost in the new generation that is springing up. Hundreds and thousands of farmer's daughters leave the homes of their mothers and seek other employments, as if with a disrelish of that which may be practically more and more scarce. The occupation is stripped by the demand for young women as operatives in factories, as millniers or sewers, shoe-binders or straw-braiders, or in some other mechanical occupation. How short do such as are thus employed come of the qualifications of the virtuous maid who obtains the best part of her education under the roof of her own father, from the instruction of the mother that knows how to do every thing coming within her province as the wife of a thriving farmer—who is entirely at home in all that pertains to the dairy, the economical use and due preparation of articles of food and clothing, and who suffers none of her household to "eat the bread of idleness."

If not to the rising fair generation, to whom shall we look for the hands that are to supply so important a portion of subsistence as the produce of the dairy? The farmer may keep his forty, fifty, or a hundred cows; if there be no help-meet to oversee and lead in the preparation of the milk after it goes to the dairy room —if there be no female to prepare the vessels, none to direct in the straining and setting of milk, the extrication and disposition of the cream, the churning into butter, the separation of the butter-milk, the clean and perfect salting down—if all this is expected of men, and not of women, how miserably shall we hereafter drop away in the produce of a most profitable and most useful article, in the production of the farm at that precise time when there is the most sure encouragement for the farmer to enter upon and persevere in the business of the dairy! —*Visitor.*

Perseverance.—"I recollect," says Sir J. Barrington, "in Queen's county, to have seen a Mr. Clerk, who had been a working carpenter, and when making a bench for the session justices at the Court-house, was laughed at for taking peculiar pains in planing and smoothing the seat of it. He smilingly observed, that he did so *to make it easy for himself*, as he was resolved he would never die till he had a right to sit thereupon, and he kept his word. He was an industrious man—honest, respectable, and kind-hearted. He succeeded in all his efforts to accumulate an independence; he did accumulate it, and uprightly. His character kept pace with the increase of his property, and he lived to sit as a magistrate on that very bench that he sawed and planed."

A wag passing a livery stable one day, in front of which several horses were tied, stopped suddenly and gazed at them for some time with a phiz indicating the utmost astonishment, and then addressed the owner, who was standing near, and asked him "if he *made* horses"—"make horses?" said the knight of the broom and currycomb, "no! why do you ask such a qustion?" "Only," replied he, "because I observed you have several *frames* sot up!"

Do Young gentlemen study Geography?—A day or two since, while a canal boat was passing by this village, on the deck of which several gentlemen were speaking about the beautiful situation of *Waterloo*, on the Canada shore, opposite this place, a spruce young gentleman, who wore a cane, and sported a white beaver, begged to be informed "where the battle of *Waterloo* was fought." All stared at such consummate ignorance. "Gentlemen, where's the spot," he again inquired—none answered. Confused, he cast his eye abeft, and discovered the ebony hue of the cook's bright countenance; the cook naturally thought that the question should be solved, so as soon as he caught the eye of the spark, he exclaimed emphatically, "*Urop massa*," covering his ivory with a skimmer, as he ran below. The "mortified man" roshed into the cabin, and betook him to *to his books.—Black Rock Gazette.*

Complaisance.—The great Henry the Fourth, of France, being asked by one of his haughty favourites, why his majesty gave himself the trouble to return the salute of so many beggars, who made their obeisances to him in the streets, replied, "Because I would not have my beggars in the streets exceed me in complaisance."

A Wife.—In the piece of Love and Reason, old General Dorlan is persuading Adjutant Vincent to marry, "She is an angel!" says the General: "I don't want an angel—I shouldn't know what to do with an angel," was the reply of the single hearted Adjutant "She is all sweetness," rejoins the General; "So is a beehive," answers Vincent, "but it does not follow that I should like to thrust my head into it."

It has been impossible to prepare the list of agents for this number.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Dr. Thomas' letter, from Long-Grove, would have appeared in this No. but was mislaid.

We are obliged to Solon Robinson Esq., for his advice, and shall endeavor to act upon it. His letter shall be given in our next. We are indebted to Mr. R. for sundry papers; and would request all our friends to imitate his example—when they find anything interesting in a paper or address, to enclose it to the "Union Agriculturist."

We hope to hear often from "Filius Coloni," and shall insert his communication in the next No. The only suggestion we would make is to give his proper signature, but we had much rather have the fictitious one than not to see it at all.

Mr. Gifford's valuable article on the Sugar Beet, will be inserted in the next No. We hope Mr. G. will send us No. 2, in season for the March No.

Mr. Churchill's communication upon fencing is just the thing. It will find a place soon. As he is so kind as to offer us "such communications occasionally," we will accept them with pleasure, and hope they will not be "like Angel's visits."

If correspondents will use paper freely in their communications, it will in a great degree prevent the liability of the printer to typographical errors. Our time will not permit us to transcribe very much.

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PROSPECTUS.

The Union Agricultural Society commences a new series of its paper with greatly increased confidence in its success. The interest manifested by Western farmers in its prosperity and usefulness, by subscriptions and contributions to its columns, is convincing proof that they are determined to sustain it.

The name of "Western Prairie Farmer," has been added to that of Union Agriculturist, as more indicative of its character: and no endeavors will be spared on the part of the Society and individual members, to make it all its new title would indicate. The paper commenced at Springfield under that name, has been discontinued; and we hope at least to make this supply its place.

The Illinois State Agricultural Society having been recently organized, and this paper adopted as its organ, its proceedings, together with the prize essays, reports, and other agricultural information procured by it, will be first published in this paper, and the proceedings of the Auxiliary Societies. Valuable agricultural information will also be obtained by the U. A. S., by requiring reports from its members upon particular subjects; and as each member will feel it is *his* paper, and his particular to communicate facts, opinions, the results of his own experiments and observation, and any matter suitable for such a paper, we hope in a very short time to fill its columns principally with original matter, prepared expressly with a view to benefit Western Farmers. We now exchange with most of the agricultural papers and periodicals of the South and East, and we expect to receive them all; so that the space not occupied with original matter, will be filled with extracts from other publications, best suited to the West.

That such a paper is needed among us—that the Eastern and Southern publications, however valuable, cannot supply its place, no one will deny; and the Society feels warranted in the supposition that such a paper will be sustained by those for whose benefit it is published, both in contributions to its columns and in subscriptions.

The Union Agriculturist claims the support of the Western agricultural community beyond any other that has been or probably will be commenced, because it is not published with a view to profit or individual advantage, but purely to benefit Western farmers—to furnish them the greatest amount of agricultural information, at the lowest rate. When it becomes profitable as now published, the Society will probably either enlarge and improve it, or reduce the price.

Engravings, and pictoral embellishments can be procured in this city, and will be freely used. The type is mostly new, and on the opening of navigation a superior quality of paper will be procured, so that its typographical execution may be inferior to none.

As an inducement to farmers and others to contribute articles for publication, we will state that our edition is 2500 copies, with occasionally an extra number for gratuitous distribution, to acquaint individuals with the paper; so that the labor of writing will not be thrown away, but will be of benefit throughout the West,

Chicago, 20th Jan., 1841.

HOLCOMB & CO. PRINTERS,
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The Union Agriculturist

AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

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THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, EDITED BY THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, THE ORGAN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TERMS.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance*. Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid*. Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1,50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance*. Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

Address of G. A. O. Beaumont, Esq., before the Meeting held at Ottawa on the 11th November, 1840.

GENTLEMEN OF THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

It is with reluctance that I now address you; not from a want of interest in the object in which we are engaged, but from want of ability to satisfy the disappointment you feel in not meeting and hearing him who was to have spoken to you on this occasion.

Want of time has prevented that preparation which the subjects of which I would speak deserve, and I must beg your indulgence for the few crude and ill-arranged remarks I may offer, since industry and preparation have not been allowed to supply the want of ability, and afford opportunity for more practical remarks on the subject before us.

We are, I might almost say, strangers, met from another land—and yet we are not strangers, for we are united by the ties of a common country. We are like members of different branches of one family, personally perhaps strangers, but drawn together by the influence of a common kindred, and warmed towards each other by a kindred's love.

We are to be looked to hereafter as the founders of a State, for at this time our State can be said but to be starting in her career—as commencing, and in the childhood of her existence. Upon us depends her future destiny, and it behooves us to look carefully to our measures and be wary in our course, since on the present so much for weal or woe for ourselves and others depends

The cultivators of the soil are to be the kings of the land. Husbandry is to be the occupation of the many who are to constitute the State. It is under our institutions, a glorious and a happy calling.

Lords of the manor, sovereigns of the soil he tends and tills; whose station is proudar, whose soul more independent than the farmer's, especially the farmers of Illinois? 'Tis true, perhaps, he has left the home of his childhood and his kindred, and the gushing tide of memory bears upon her stream scenes past and absent; and associations shaded with melancholy at times will swell his bosom with a sigh, as he thinks of the places that he has known to know as home, no more. There is indeed that connected with this emigration to a distant and new country, at times painful; and as fancy brings before us the forms of loved ones we have left, and memory shows us the forms of those with whom our early days were passed, between us and the graves of whom the green lakes roll, and the mountains rise—the graves of the father, the mother, the sister, the brother, and friends of every kin; painful and swelling emotions oppress the heart, and the tear which grief shed over the tombs of the departed, is followed by the tear which memory demands for those deserted.

But our business is with the living present, and while those memories will come upon us, let us remember the prize for which we have left them. We have found a land fairer and more fruitful than the promised land with which Heaven endowed its chosen people.—The richness of its soil is only equalled by the beauties of its landscapes. It would seem, indeed, as though Providence, in the fulness of its bounty, had determined to prepare and perfect a land for the husbandman alone, where nothing should be wanting which man's reason or fancy could suggest to render the earth smiled and fitted for cultivation. We look abroad upon the rolling prairie, as it were an ocean, to whose heaving bosom had been spoken the words "peace be still," and instant quiet had fallen upon it. We behold a garden more beautiful than those which Oriental luxury has formed for its princes, and adorned at a price—the lives and happiness of its thousand victims. We behold ours, more fertile than the famous gardens of the Nile, ready ornamented by the hand of Nature, and ask ourselves the involuntary question, "Could man ask more?" Here, then, is our habitation, like the paradise of our first parent to the eye, where the primeval curse seems almost removed, and man appears scarcely compelled "to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow;" and here from this soil, our own interests and means of prosperity spring.

It is indeed most evident that the farming interest is the great interest of our State, and upon the success of this depends the prosperity of the State. To cherish this—to improve the opportunities Providence has granted us then, becomes our duty, as it should be our delight. It is to further these interests that we are now met together. As I have before remarked, as a State we are young—we are also beginners in the occupation we have chosen—we are comparatively few and scattered, and whatever is our occupation, we need the helping hand of one another to aid us in our pursuits. We should be neighbors in the Scripture sense; we should counsel together for the common good, since the common good is the good of the individual.

It would seem that we, in this part of the State, more particularly those who are tillers of the soil by occupation, most evidently require some combination—some concert of action, such as is secured by this Society. Few individuals of our farmers are able to supply themselves with the necessaries for rendering their farms valuable and profitable to the extent they wish; while many of them, by uniting their means, can in a short time procure the objects required.

The ends proposed by this Society are as well known to you who are practical farmers, and to many better than to myself. To be united together and organized for the furtherance of the farming interests, seems too apparently useful to each individual to require argument or urging to enlist his interest and effort in its behalf. Experience in other countries, and in the older settlements of our own, have shewn their utility there; how much more we need them, who are less able to move on by our own means to speedy success, the good sense of each one will suggest; and the increasing interest manifested in this undertaking, shows that our sagacious farmers are alive to it. By meeting occasionally as is proposed by this Society, we learn the interests of the whole and each other. We commune together and extend the means of information on general subjects, and become familiar with our country's interests, while we further our own. We arouse ambition and excite enterprise, while we open the channels for their operations and afford means of their success. We make our interests mutual, and mutual interests beget mutual regard. The peace and happiness of mankind depend upon harmony in society; and the closer we knit ourselves together in our own interests and feelings, the more we increase our mutual enjoyment.

I have before spoken of the influence of the present generation upon the future destinies of the State—of the opportunities which our soil and the nature of the country generally, affords for success, and remarked that our great interest was the farming interest. But there is another subject intimately connected with, and indeed almost a part of this, at all times worthy of attention, but most especially of ours at this time. It is education.

The immortal mind, that which elevates us above all earthly creatures, and to a rank in being but little lower than the angels—in which consists our likeness to God's own image—in looking at other things, let us not forget this most important of all.

For this the farmer has peculiar advantages. His is an occupation more free from harrassing care and perplexity than that of most other men. A spirit of proud independence springs up within him, and "grows with its growth, and strengthens with his strength;" and he looks perhaps too much with scorn, upon the sickly child of luxury pampered into helplessness, and incapable of enjoying the bounties of Providence from an ignorance of their worth; these deserve more his pity. With this independence, he rises with the sun to pursue the avocations of health and cheerfulness; and while his body is thus employed, the mind is busy in reading the book nature has spread before him. The brook murmurs eloquent philosophy, and the flower opens a book of poetry in which he reads the sublime and wonderful works of its creator, and examines the rules and causes and effects of things. Nature is ever before him—nature, the eloquent teacher, whose teachings are all from Heaven; from her he learns no impure or sinful thing; she is a true philosopher, an encyclopedia of learning, and all may read.

Upon the husbandman, who is in constant communion with nature, her influences peculiarly fall.

The day's labor is over, and the remainder of the hours may be divided between the improvement of the mind and natural real. To study he brings a mind fresh and vigorous, untrammelled by prejudice, unbroken by feeble health, and thirsty for knowledge. Hence the remarkable success that has frequently attended the efforts of those who, though they can spare but little time from their labor for study, yet have tamed the lightning for a plaything, like our Franklin; or like Burns, made hill and valley vocal with the voice of song.

But for this the mind must be educated; for if the child grows up in ignorance—if, when sense is young, it sips not nor tastes from the delicious fountain—if it is not taught the powers of the mind, and by its exercise taught to love its exercise—if habits of mind are not formed when it is supple and tender to impression, be he farmer or not, nature will teach in vain; and the child of ignorance becomes the man of guilt and folly, or spends a life but little more useful than the ox he ploughs with—a mere drudge for a livelihood—so much of God's created human existence wasted and uninformed of the vast amount of enjoyment, the improvement of his mental powers might have afforded him. To farmers then, how important does the subject of education become.—Would you have your sons strong and noble and brave, who would stand proudly and equal beside the proudest sons of this or any other land? or would you have them strong, like and for the same purpose as the brute, to toil for his meat and drink? Would you have your fair daughters accomplished, and worthy to be called the daughters and descendants of the mothers and daughters of the Revolution, who vied with their husbands and brothers and lovers in devotion to the cause, which successful, has rendered us what we are? Would you have their beauty lighted up by the smile and beaming eye of intelligence, or would you have them slaves of the senses only, unlovely in themselves, and unfit to rear up a generation to whom shall be committed the destiny of our country?

Enterprise, and a desire for knowledge and mental improvement, have ever been a strong characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon blood; and it has not failed in us. We were born where knowledge was prized and education encouraged; right noble old States they are which gave us birth—let us not belie our parentage. The present active farming population of the part of our State, (with other parts I am less acquainted,) will compare well with New England and the Empire State in point of general intelligence, while we excel them in our facilities for agriculture, and mutual sources of enjoyment.

No population is so pure, so brave, so patriotic, as an intelligent agricultural population. It was this class that for the most part achieved our independence. The soil is their own. They love it almost with a first love. It yields them their support—'tis their granary, their purse, their nursing mother, and they cannot but be patriots.

Is there not enough to encourage you then in this undertaking? Is there not a glorious destiny for our State if we will but do our duty? If we will but improve the opportunities Heaven has lavished upon us?

Your occupation is one that least exposes you to vice and immorality; while its tendency is to create within you love for purity and virtue, and affords advantages for mental improvement. What is wanting to make us a moral, intelligent, religious, and consequently a happy people? Nothing—almost too little of exertion; nothing, but to take the good that is given us, to improve our advantages, to cultivate our own minds and the minds of those whose education is entrusted to us; to instil into the minds of the rising generation, and cultivate in our own, a spirit of gratitude towards him who has caused "our lines to fall in pleasant places;" to make our path a path of virtue—in a word, to do our duty.

It is because this Society may be made a powerful organ for the success of this, that I would urge upon you to enter into its views and consult its interests. It may, and if you advance with zeal it will, be a source of large pecuniary advantage. It will tend powerfully to elevate you as a farming community, and consolidate your interests.

But I look to it for even higher ends and effects than these; as a means of disseminating agricultural science and general knowledge; as a means of bringing mind to act with and upon mind; as a means of inculcating the doctrine of mutual interests, and of disseminating neighborly love and good will; and while it will excite emulation and effort to excel, each his neighbor, it will be a peaceful and peace-begetting contest—a contest for excellence in the noblest passions, and effort to excel in good feeling and neighborly love, as well as in your agricultural occupations and efforts.

Gentlemen of the Society,—I could well have wished to present the subjects on which I have touched in a more entertaining and persuasive manner, and to have remarked on others almost equally important; but unexpected obstacles have deprived me of most of the small space of time allowed for preparation, even had I the ability in other respects to have interested you. I would fondly hope, however, that you will give these subjects your earnest attention. Let us make the effort. Let our way be like the broad stream that bounds us on the West, strong and determined and invincible in our course towards national greatness and prosperity, until Illinois becomes as she may become, the brightest star in that glorious constellation of States, whose beams shall shed light and brightness, almost to dim even those glorious luminaries where Liberty first rested in her weary flight—the "Old Thirteen"—the early homes of Freedom. Let us emulate them while we love them, and so live and act that our "ways may be the ways of pleasantness, and all our paths be peace."

THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—It is expected Agricultural Societies now existing in this State will become auxiliary to this; and that in the counties where Societies do not exist, the necessary steps will be taken to form them. There is no more efficient way of promoting the agricultural interests, than is afforded by means of these Societies; and we do most ardently hope, that at the next regular meeting of the State Society, every county will be represented in it. There are many societies organised in the State, far more than we had supposed; and if every member does his part in sustaining them, the good that will result, not only to the members, but to the entire State, will be great.

Upon reference to Mr. Peck's letter it will be seen St. Clair is setting a good example.—Let the other counties imitate it.

COMMUNICATIONS.

LONG GROVE, La Salle Co. Ill.,
Nov. 17th, 1840.

Mr. Editor, Sir,—Your communication, which seems to have been mailed on the 29th October, did not come to hand till November 15th. It was directed to Oswego, which is not my post office, where it might have been till Wilham the Norman's Day of Doom. Accidentally, however, it came to hand, informing me of my appointment by a meeting of the Agricultural Society at Naperville, to draw up "a report upon Horned Cattle," and to read it at another subsequent meeting to be held at Ottawa on the 11th instant. You will perceive from this, that had I been ever so competent, intellectually and physically, to fulfil the duty, the delay in receiving the resolution has altogether put it out of my power. I thank the Society for the compliment, but I am sure they bestowed it upon an individual very incompetent to the task. In the first place, I have been sick for the last two months, and am but just now convalescent. This alone would have been sufficient to have excused me. But to say nothing of this, the consideration that I am but a student in the noble science of Agriculture, and a mere amateur farmer of juvenile experience, would, if you had known it, have led the meeting to have fixed upon some other person, and so to have avoided any chagrin the gentlemen at Ottawa may have been the subject of on account of the disappointment they met with.

Some people are very fond of "telling their experiences," which, in this day of things of very questionable propriety, is a practice of great repute. It may be good or bad; this I will not stay to determine. The fondness for "telling," and the "experiences" themselves are things of very different consideration. I like to listen to a good experience, for there is always something valuable to be learned from it; for a good experience can come only from a sound practical man, in whatever science he may profess. I would rather hear the experience of such a man than trouble mankind with any thing I have to tell on the important subject of farming. I have experienced hitherto, almost nothing but vexation in relation to HORNED CATTLE. I commenced farming under very unpropitious circumstances, about four years ago, in the State of Virgima. I say unpropitious, because Virginia, like many other States, has been impoverished to such an extent by the starved system of agriculture, which consists in hard cropping, close grazing, and non-manuring, (except for the tobacco patch,) that it has become comparatively grassless, and consequently, in its present condition, utterly beyond the pale of the *Horned* Cattle raising community. Hence, from a bad system of farming, a naturally fine country is reduced to such sterility, that considerable stock is imported from Kentucky.

Having become enamored of a country life, to which hitherto I had been a stranger, I purchased a farm about 40 miles from Richmond, where I was then practicing medicine. How little physicians have to do with Horned Cattle in a city, except to eat them, your knowledge of such persons in Chicago will suffice to shew. I have had as much to do with them all my previous life as these gentlemen beef-eaters.—Well, Sir, I bought two cattle, one horned, as she would let you know if you approached too near, the other "a buffaloe" or hornless cow, as they term such animals in the South. In England we associate with the idea of cows, another, viz. plenty of milk and butter; but in America, or rather in the impoverished States thereof, how erroneous an association! I purchased the said cattle for "milch cows," and so they were; for, according to my experience in Virginia, a cow is milch though yielding only half a pint of milk! My cows yielded me about six pints a day; therefore according to that standard, they were certainly milch cows! But the secret of the whole matter in every country, fertile or infertile, is simply this, that *nothing is to be had for nothing*; or in other words, *take nothing from nothing and nothing remains*. How in the name of reason, can farmers get milk from cattle, starved for want of food and comfortable shelter? This is the secret of the great paucity of milk and butter in the winter season. In Virginia, they get no hay, no beets, nor other roots; nothing in fact but a few shucks, a small portion of damaged straw, and the scanty pickings, called "boots," which remain on the corn stalks after the fodder is pulled. And I perceive, that even in this rich country, things are reduced almost, if not quite, to the same level; for, Sir, what boots it, if a farmer have a yard full of hay stacks, if that hay be gathered too late, and if he have double as many cattle as his hay will support in a mild climate; for the shelterless cattle of this country require each double the quantity of fodder necessary to sustain life under more favorable circumstances. It is no use mixing the bloods of animals to improve them, until such abuses of propriety are reformed. Milk is a secretion, and there must be in the cow's receptacle *succulent* food from which it may be secreted. The functions of the skin must be duly maintained; that is the circulation of the blood should be free and vigorous, so that the insensible moisture may exude, the pores being unobstructed, and the hair of a soft and velvety feel. The animal will then feel comfortable, and all the secretions will go on kindly. The curry comb and brush would be as little detrimental to horned cattle as to horses; but the former seem to be treated as if they were bound to give all, flesh, fat, and milk, upon as short commons, and with as little care, as possible.

Well, Sir, I bought a third cow at a sale. She was young and milch, giving the astonishing quantity of half a pint per day! I discovered this after having bought and paid for her. It was too late to make beef of her, so I permitted her to live in hopes of better things. I kept her two years, but affairs became worse instead of better. She never profited me any thing, as you may judge from the fact that I gave seven dollars for her, kept her two years on the Virginia system and put her up to auction when about to emigrate, but could get no bid! I had no alternative therefore, as no one would buy her or have her as a gift, but to leave her to her own resources in the woods. To dismiss her case in few words, she was a *corneous* vexation and a vaccine sore to the eye.

By this time I had learned the force of these truths, that it matters not how excellent the stock, neither milk, butter, fat nor flesh, need be expected, unless they are well supplied with plenty of wholesome, succulent or juicy provender; that good shelter is necessary to copious secretion, and is a great saving of fodder; that a few good horned cattle *well kept*, are more profitable in every respect (except in the article of hides, *numerically* considered) than three times the number of *anatomies vivantes*, or living skeletons of cattle too commonly found prowling around stacks and barns and heaps of manure; and that a good price paid for good cattle, is cheaper than a low price for the common country stock. Convinced of these things, I determined to sell out of the Virginia system, in which every thing degenerates—land, cattle, hogs, wheat, &c. &c., and in the fertile West begin again, and in beginning have few stock and good. In purchasing a cow, therefore, I looked out for a good milker, as far as I could judge by her lacteferous apparatus, and good blood; accordingly I found one with good udder and half Durham; but not paying sufficient attention to her phrenology, I bought a vixen. This is certainly a fault, for a cow ought to be gentle to give a full compliment of milk; for if they are not, they will, when in an ill-humor, hold up their milk, which mine often does, much to the vexation of our family, who all delight in the English notion of "plenty of milk and butter." Many common cows, I believe, of good disposition, though not such abundant milk yielders on special occasions, in the aggregate give more milk than an extraordinary cow, of a touchy, ill habit of mind. Mine will sometimes, and not seldom, after today giving a good supply, to-morrow scarcely yield a pint; so that in the milking season she has given less than a common cow of good temper.

In addition to this effort to get into good stock, I made another. On my journey hither, I halted at Springfield, Ohio, and made a digression to the city of Cincinnati, in the vicinity of which, I understood I could purchase pure blooded stock. There I found a proprietor of "Improved Short-Horned Durham" Bulls, in the person of Major Daniel Gano, a friend of mine, and a liberal, enlightened and spirited patron of agriculture withal. He had a two years old, whose parents are well known to stock-farmers as "herd book" animals. He gave $150 for him when six months old.—This one I purchased, and sent off by boat to Dayton, from whence I drove him hither. He is three years old in the spring, and the following is his pedigree:

SIRE, "Higby. Roan Bull, calved July, 1832, got by the thorough bred short-horned Durham Bull McDuff; his Dam was got by George; his grand-dam out of an imported Cow by an imported Bull. McDuff bred by J. H. Powell, and a herd book animal.

DAM, "Helen. Roan Cow, calved April 23, 1833, got by the thorough bred short-horned Durham Bull Defiance; her dam by Bampton. Bampton was out of Cassandra, bred in England by Charles Collins, got by Cumberland.

"Royal George, (the name of the one I purchased,) red and white Bull, calved March 3, 1838; dam Helen, got by Higby.

"The above pedigree was given me by Mr. Wm. Neff, who bred Royal George, and of whom I bought him when a calf, at $150, Oct. 8th, 1839. DANL. GANO."

The following certificate was given me by the Major:—"Oct. 12, 1839. I have this day sold to Dr. John Thomas, the within named Bull, Royal George, who is a full blooded and thorough bred Durham Bull. DANL. GANO."

This Bull I have brought into the country for the improvement of my own and the stock of the vicinity. I intend to admit cows to him after he has completed his third year. He is a fine fellow, and will no doubt prove an acquisition to the region round about.

But, Sir, I must here close my conversation with you on the subject of my vexatious experience of Horned Cattle. I suspect their horns have hitherto been too long; I shall hereafter endeavour to have to do chiefly with short horns, of the improved kind. It may perhaps then be more propitious both to the feelings and the pocket; for to the present small profit has attended my dealings in the cattle kind.

I am, Sir, your most ob'dt.,
JOHN THOMAS.

NOTE.—Dr. T. misunderstood the request. It was to prepare a report, and if possible present it at the Ottawa Meeting; if impossible, at some subsequent meeting. He will accordingly see his report is still expected. It has been thought necessary, to give interest to the paper, that the report of this Committee upon some of the breeds should be somewhat anticipated; but the Durham has been intentionally omitted, that there might be an important breed untouched; and besides giving a general description of the other breeds, we would like a particular description of this, which will be inserted with engravings from Youatt or some other work. We feel at liberty to make the suggestion, for the report was called for merely for publication in the paper; supposing original articles would meet with more general acceptance, than selected ones.

Col. Gooding, associated with Dr. T. on this Committee, says he has received no notification of his appointment except through the paper. It is singular, for he and each member of the other Committees, were written to individually. But we are happy to inform him, that it is not too late yet to send a report; and as he has so kindly offered his services to aid us, we shall expect soon to hear from him.—Col. Gooding's address is Lockport; Dr. Thomas' is Bristol, Kane co.

AVON P. O., Kane Co. Ill., Dec. 14, 1840.

To the Editor of the Union Agriculturist.

DEAR SIR,—Dr. H. A. Miller of Geneva, Kane co., gave me a number (the 1st) of your paper with which I am well pleased; and feeling a deep interest in the success of the undertaking, I am disposed to render what little assistance I can for that purpose. If a subscription for the paper, and an occasional communication, such as the following, are acceptable, they are at your service.

FENCING.—Allow me through your paper to give a few hints to my brother farmers upon the subject of fencing.

The great value of timber in all prairie countries, seems to indicate that some other material ought to be substituted for fencing; and the most convenient and durable should be selected.

There are numerous modes, practiced in different countries of fencing without timber, as stone and brick in walls; hedges formed of live brush-wood; ditch and bank; embankment with live hedge on it; ditch without embankment; hedge formed of dry brush wood interwoven, &c.

Stone is out of the question on our prairies; brick is too expensive for general use; a live hedge requires a fence to protect it for some length of time; ditch and embankment are liable, in our climate, to crumbling from frost; embankment with hedge will be destroyed by cattle and hogs, unless protected; ditch is liable to the same objection that ditch and embankment is; dry brush is too perishable to be recommended.

By a combination of some of the above, we may obtain a cheap and durable fence. Ditch and embankment with a hedge on the embankment seems to be our only alternative. The ditch will defend the embankment and hedge from the horns and jaws of vicious or hungry cattle, and the snouts of prairie rooters; the roots of the hedge will preserve the embankment from crumbling and falling, and the whole will improve by age and proper care.

Material for Hedge.—I have made some inquiry, and tried a few experiments to ascertain the best native shrubs and timber trees for hedges. Thorn, crab, and plum, may be obtained in abundance and will answer a good purpose for a hedge, but the roots being of slow growth it is feared they will not support the embankment in time to preserve it from falling by the crumbling of the ditch under the sod.

Cotton-wood and the willows, natives; and Lombardy poplar, foreign, grow freely from cuttings, and the roots spread rapidly and soon form a good support for the embankment. If any one should wish to form a fence without being troubled with the shade, and expense of trimming a hedge, the yellow dwarf willow, found on dry prairies and barrens, may be used with great advantage by placing cuttings at the bottom and between the sods as the embankment is being made, if done in April.

Cotton-wood will grow from two to four feet the first season from cuttings, if properly set; but will require bending down and interweaving to form a good fence; for which I could give a drawing (of the process of bending and interweaving) if desired, or it could be obtained from some old number of the Cultivator. A fence made with double ditch and embankment between the ditches, with a hedge row of cotton wood on the top, properly bent and interwove, must be permanent and would have a fine appearance. After the hedge is sufficiently grown, the ditches may be neglected or filled in with the plough, unless required for draining the land, in which case they will be kept open.

Mode of making the Fence.—Being prepared with stakes, two lines, shovels, spades, &c., set your stakes along the range of your fence the length of your line apart; stretch your line three feet from the stakes; commence cutting along your line with the spade to nearly the depth of the blade. When you have cut thus the whole length of the line, set your line off three feet and a half for the out-side of the ditch; cut as before; take up your line and set eight inches within the first line to commence the embankment by; the other side the same.—Now commence taking out the sod, and be careful to put the spade into the ground on the same angle that you wish to have the face of your embankment stand, to render it easy to lay up the face. Lay the sod along the line, then fill in the middle with loose earth; be careful that the loose earth and sod are well united by occasionally beating both down with the spade or shovel. Thus go on laying up all the sod that is taken from the ditch. The bottom of the ditch should be eighteen inches wide, if three feet deep, which is about the proper depth.

Planting the Hedge.—This part depends much on the material used; and as I have no experience, or knowledge by observation, of foreign materials, I shall confine my remarks to natives.

The thorn, crab, and plum, may be set in two rows on the top of the embankment about a foot asunder, and from four to six inches apart in the rows. Cotton wood may be set in a single row on the top of the embankment, about eight inches apart in the row, and inserted about 8 or 10 inches in the earth.

For planting on the top, the embankment should be made in the fall and set early in the spring.

Cuttings of the willow of the dwarf kinds should be put in while the fence is making, between the sods, one tier at the bottom. For dry ground, select your cuttings of willows from dry ground; and for wet, from wet ground. The larger kinds of willow may be used the same as cotton wood, though it will probably succeed best on moist land.

Method of "Laying," or bending and interweaving the cotton wood into fence. The sets having obtained the height of three or four feet, when the foliage is off, commence at one end by taking the first set in the hand about a foot from the ground; with the other hand part the other sets, one to the right, another to the left, and bend the set in your hand between them down to within a foot of the ground, the top the lowest; take the next in the same way, parting your sets in the contrary direction, as the splits of a basket are wove in, thus proceed through the whole line. Let it have one year's growth and lay it again; the third and fourth the same, when your fence will be made for ages.

Some may say why not use the locust? It is thorny, stiff, easily broken, and liable to "winter kill;" and when "layed" in fence is as useless for timber as cotton wood.

When cattle are not to be put in the field, one ditch only is necessary, and one face to the embankment.

Expense of making Ditches and Embankment.—Sixty-two and a half cents for double, and thirty-one and a fourth for single, per rod, and board, is a fair price for making the ditches and embankment. I know of a job let at that rate, and can let jobs at the same myself. In fact good wages can be made, as I have frequently heard knights of the spade assert that they could make six rods of the single fence in a day.

Yours, &c.,
A. CHURCHILL.

ELGIN, Dec. 28th, 1840.

To the Editor of the Union Agriculturist.

SIR,—Not having had an interview, or any correspondence with the gentleman appointed with me to report on the Sugar Beet, neither leisure to prepare a proper report; I send you a few remarks on the subject, intending to give further attention to it, and to forward you something more. I trust that Doct. Bowen will do the same.

THE BEET.—This vegetable, of which the *White Silesian* variety is preferable, either for feeding or sugar manufacture, on account of its nutritious qualities, its amount of saccharine, and its freeness from foreign substances, coloring matters, &c., is one of the most sure crops in our climate, and particularly on our Western prairies, and is second to no crop in the list of root culture, in value as an article for

feeding stock alone. The soil should be prepared similarly to a good preparation for corn, by a thorough ploughing; and the planting should take place from the first to the fifteenth of May, although the crop sometimes succeeds well planted as late as the first of June. The rows should be a sufficient distance apart to admit a horse between them, which requires about two feet; and the plants should stand in the rows from ten to twelve inches distant from each other. The beet seed produces from two to five plants each, so that thinning is indispensable, or the roots grow ill-shaped and of small size, which is very bad for manufacturing, on account of the difficulty of cleaning them. If the plants stand even over the ground the above distances apart, and are well hoed, the product, on good soil not too much exhausted by other crops, is generally from five to eight hundred bushels per acre, averaging about fifteen tons per acre. The usual product of saccharine from 100 lbs. of beets, by manufacturers of experience, is eight lbs.; and of chrystalized sugar six lbs. These results were attained by the Northampton Company last fall, and in some instances nine and a half lbs. of sugar and molasses from 100 lbs of roots, seven of which was chrystalized sugar.

Mr. D. L. Child, the principal of that establishment and a gentleman of science, spent one year and a half among the manufactories and the scientific men engaged in the business, in Belgium, Germany and France. From close observation and experience, he is probably as well qualified to judge of the matter as any one in our country. Mr. Child expresses full confidence that the common sugar from the beet may be made in this country at four cents per lb. That the beet contains a large portion of chrystalizable sugar, and that it is practicable to extract it, no longer remains a question. It is also sufficiently demonstrated that the growing of the root and the manufacture of sugar from it in this country may be made a good business.

Many persons without experience or suitable apparatus have made hasty experiments, supposing the process to be as simple and practicable as the boiling down the sap of the maple tree into sugar; and not succeeding, have come to the conclusion that it is very difficult, if not impracticable, to make good sugar from the article. Such do not reflect, that the sap of the maple flows from the tree in a good degree elaborated by nature; and that if they were to grate the tree, and then extract the saccharine, they would find a very different business in making sugar from it. The sugar cane is crushed and pressed as is the beet; and a somewhat similar process is required in clarifying and separating impurities, to make good sugar from either.

There are three different principles adopted, with many variations of each among the manufactures of beet sugar, for the extraction of the saccharine matter. The first, which has been longest and is still most in use, is grating and pressing. The second is called the Macerating System. In this the roots are shaved or pared into ribbands or shavings, and immersed in hot water, the saccharine being taken from them in solution; different hurdles or baskets being immersed in the same until the water has acquired nearly the richness of the juice itself. The third is called the dessicating principle. In this process the beets are grated or pared, and then dried in a kiln; it is then at leisure and at any time of the year, reduced fine, and applying water, the saccharine is pressed from it. In each of the three systems, the most important step, and the first after the juice containing the saccharine is obtained, is the defecation or first clarification of the juice. In my first attempts I made four batches without effecting a good defecation. In each case there was a great production of scum in boiling, and the result, instead of chrystalized sugar, was a dark colored wax or candy with an unpleasant taste. Ascertaining the important point, and succeeding in making good defecations, I then made several small parcels of fair chrystalized sugar. It is important that the juice be extracted immediately after grating, and the process of defecation commenced, as the pulp soon undergoes a chemical change which is very injurious. The defecation is performed by using lime and acid, each in sufficient proportion to neutralize the other. If the defacation is good, the juice becomes within an hour pure and clear, very nearly resembling in appearance Saint Croix rum; all gross particles and impurities being precipitated to the bottom. If the result is not attained, it is useless to go farther with a view of making chrystalized sugar. I make these remarks on the first steps of manufactoring, not with a view of giving in this article the minutiæ of the process, but that those who may have made unsuccessful attempts at making sugar from the beet, may be apprised of that which perhaps caused their failure. I may in a subsequent article go into the particulars of the manufacturing process, with a description of the necessary apparatus for a small operation. I shall devote the remainder of this article to a short notice of the origin and advancement of the beet sugar manufactura.

In the year 1747, Margraff, a celebrated Russian Chemist at Berlin, discovered that the beet root contained a large portion of chrystalizable sugar. He also ascertained in experimenting, that many other plants beside the cane contained the same in different proportions, but none equaling the beet. He varied and enlarged his experiments, but did nothing on a manufacturing scale. He addressed a memoir to the Academy of Berlin, giving the results of his experiments, and expressing his firm belief that his discovery would one day assume importance, and form a beneficial branch of agriculture. Nothing of consequence appears to have been done at manufacturing until 1797, when Achard, also a chemist of Berlin, commenced the manufacture on a respectable scale. The announcement of his success in the Paris papers, caused the National Institute of France to appoint a commission to investigate the subject; the report of which was, that the common raw sugar could be made from the beet at 16 cents per lb. In consequence of these movements, two or three establishments for manufacturing were started in France — These were commenced where the soil proved unfavorable to the production of the beet; and owing to that circumstance, and the inexperience of the workmen, they went down. But the enforcement of the Berlin and Milan decrees in 1806, which excluded all colonial articles, so raised the price of sugar, that it stimulated to further efforts to produce it from an indigenous source. Model schools and establishments were commenced under the auspices of Napoleon, to teach the art of manufacturing, &c. Men of science gave much attention to the subject, and mechanical skill was exerted to a great extent, and with great success, in improving the necessary apparatus and machinery; so that by 1811 it became an important branch of business to the country. Such have been the improvements in the apparatus and the process of manufacture, that the cost of the common article has been reduced from 16 to four cents per lb. The number of manufactories in France in 1838, was 542; in the German States 87 in operation, and 66 in process of construction; in Russia 50, and in Belgium 20. The amount of beet sugar made in France alone in 1832 was 22 millions of lbs The manufacture had increased in 1838 to 112 millions of lbs.; and the whole amount made in Europe in 1838, was over 150 millions of lbs.

JAMES T. GIFFORD.

ROCKSPRING, Ills., Jan. 21, 1841.

To the Editor of the Union Agriculturist.

Dear Sir,—Your letter and the file of Union Agriculturists are all before me. I regret that absence and pressing engagements have delayed an answer so long.

The paper, from the specimen numbers, promises to be exactly such an one as is needed in the North-Western States and Territories.

Any thing I can do to extend its circulation into the Southern portion of our State shall be cheerfully done; and if "any articles from my pen will be read with interest" in the North, and serve the farming community, you shall have them, so far as I can "snatch a few shreds of passing time" from my various avocations. With all my other pursuits, I claim to be a practical farmer—cultivate my own farm, and eat my own bread. It is only within some half a dozen years that the people in these Southern counties have had their attention directed to agricultural improvement. Gradual advancement is now making by improving the breed of cattle and swine, and the introduction of better varieties of vegetable productions.

There has yet been formed no Agricultural Society in this county, (St. Clair,) nor, to my knowledge in any county South of this. In Madison county a Society nominally exists, but it has effected but little. I regretted my engagements were such as to prevent my attendance at the meeting for a State Agricultural Society at Springfield.

I have conversed with several of our most enterprising farmers in St. Clair county, and efforts will be made to organize a Branch Society soon.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

J. M. PECK.

For the Union Agriculturist.

"Wide flies the chaff;
The rustling straw sends up a frequent mist
Of atoms, sparkling in the noonday beam.
Come hither ye that press your beds of down
And sleep not; see him sweating o'er his bread
Before he eats it. 'Tis the primal curse,
But softened into mercy; and made the pledge
Of cheerful days, and nights without a groan."

Mr. WRIGHT,—Please accept my thanks for the first two copies of your excellent sheet. I hail it with pleasure, as doubtless many do, whose judgment and forecast have long since decided upon the utility and expediency of the plan you have adopted. It has already wakened up a spirit of interest and inquiry among us, which will tell in after time upon the success and happiness of the farming community in Northern Indiana. The honest, noble hearted and industrious Hoosier, who has given you some lessons by way of example, certainly will not fail to respond to such an effort as is proposed among you. A call has been made for a meeting at the Court House of La Porte county, on the first day of February next, to organize an Agricultural Society.

Strange if our prairies, producing as large a growth and as fine a quality of wheat as any country in the world, should not present some minds of equal cast. Not that a rich intellect is always found upon a rich soil, but we are of the number who believe industry fosters genius; and that Mother Earth might justly disown, as her son, the man who scorns to cherish a familiar acquaintance with the nature, power and virtue of her from whom he received his native origin.

Action is the law of nature; and he who would be vigorous and happy, must be industrious. The mind cannot be productive and healthful, unless there is a like state of our physical powers. Not that strong nerves always command strong intellects; for the former often is cultivated and not the latter. But a vigorous mind has lost half its power when dependent upon a weak body. With one of the ancients he would say, "Give us strong minds in strong bodies." The imbecility and pigmied intellects of the present age, must fall under the censure of luxurious and indolent habits. The youth of our day, unlike the ancients, seem to count it an honor to be delicate and effeminate, rather than hardy, manly and daring in the field of enterprise and deserved fame.

But I should speak of agriculture, (culture of the ground,) rather than of the laborer who performs it. Still, man was the first product of earth, who by the fiat of the Almighty, came forth in his innocence and majesty, the first-born of all that should come after him. And there is nothing connected with agriculture but what pertains to the happiness of man—in its highest state of perfection, you have the perfection of society. Without the culture of the earth, man could not subsist. The pursuit then is laudable, ennobling, inspiring. It gives opportunity for studying nature in her pristine loveliness, and leaves the soul free to range the entire field of thought. The philosopher may here expend his utmost power, and his researches have no end. The poet may here tune his harp to nature's voice. I have long been convinced that the bone of intellect and virtue in our land, is to be found in our farming community. The plough-jogger, sod-digger, and ox-driver, in his homely costume, may, if the occasion demand, be the Hero and the Statesman. When called forth from his obscurity, he is able to "stand before kings, and not before mean men."

Much of the real worth is now obscured by the circumstances of his station. The farmer loves his retirement, and seeks not to make a show of himself; but he holds a power and wields a destiny that few understand. An agricultural paper is calculated to bring forth this native talent, and bless the community and the world with the savor of its influence. The intelligent husbandman will be made to feel that he is lord of the soil, and should command the respect which is his due; and will have the rational satisfaction of knowing that he does not live for naught. But the wilfully ignorant must plod on in the old beaten way; one grade above those animals that borough in the earth to make a home, deposit their nest, and care only to provide for bodily necessities. So the stupid man, who is content with knowing the number of his flocks and of his herds—the names of his nearest neighbors—the boundaries of his little farm, and the way to mill and to market—he lives unknowing and unknown, and dies unmourned.

We have fallen upon better times, and rejoice in the prospect of seeing intelligence, virtue and religion, flourish under the auspices of your Society; and our farmers be made as happy and as honored as they are free.

FILLIUS COLONI.

Michigan City, Jan. 15, 1841.

ITEMS IN DOMESTIC AND RURAL ECONOMY.

To prevent horses, which are disposed to break their bridles, from doing so, place a pad within the strap that passes back of the head, the inside of which is lined with cotton or linen, in which the points of three or four very sharp nails, pointing inwards, are concealed. When the horse draws hard upon his bridle, these prick him, and cause him to desist.

Stoves, for heating rooms, will throw out much more heat for the amount of fuel consumed, if, as soon as the wood gets well burning, the draught *below* and *above* the fire, is closed. Far less heat is swept by the draft up chimney. On this principle, the blacksmith increases the heat of his forge, by sprinkling water upon the ignited coals, and preventing the flame from rushing out; and also, green wood on a common fire often prevents the rapid escape of heat up the chimney, for a similar reason. *All stoves should therefore be provided with a valve above as well as below the fire.*

Cracks in the stoves and stove pipe are readily closed by a paste made of ashes and salt with water. Iron turnings or filings, sal ammoniac, and water, make a harder and more durable cement.

An excellent cement for broken glass, is made by grinding together linseed oil and white lead, to the consistency of a paste.

Nails are prevented from rusting by heating them, and dropping them while hot in oil.

Gates work much better for having the hinges and latches greased. To keep them so, bore a hole, and plug up a quantity of grease in the gate post, where it may always be at hand when wanted.

Ice, on door steps, may be easily removed by throwing salt upon it, which will cause the ice to crack to pieces.

Cattle should be duly supplied with salt during the winter, which is often forgotten.

Hay and oats may be economized by feeding horses ruta bagas, which they soon learn to eat.

An excellent and cheap paint for rough wood work, is made of six pounds of melted pitch, one pint linseed oil, and one pound of brick dust, or yellow ochre.

Cream which churns with difficulty in winter, if too sour, will speedily produce butter by the addition of saleratus. If too cold hot water may be applied—but it is better to warm the cream and keep it so. If the the thermometer shows 70 degrees of Fah. it will soon come. When minute granules of butter appear and it does not gather rapidly, throw in a piece of butter, and it will "lump" together in a trice.

Stumps in fields are made to rot, by placing earth upon them.—*New Genesee Farmer.*

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

MINCE PIES.—Finding myself in an old fashioned Yankee-mince-pie-eating community, I beg to inform them of a recent discovery in the art of making them, well suited to this country in the absence of apples. Take pumpkin, peal and cut it as it to stew it the old fashioned way; put the article into a pot or kettle, cover it with water, and bring the water to a boil, just to scald it. Then drain off the water, let the pumpkins cool, and chop it up as you would apples. Add a quantity of vinegar to the chopped pumpkin, stir them together and let them soak a short space—when you will use it as you would apple. The quantity of vinegar must depend on its strength. It gives the pumpkin a tart like apple, and the best judges cannot tell the difference. Pumpkins used in the same way make an excellent substitute for *green apple* pies.—*Milw. Sen.*

RICH BREAD PUDDING.—Cut a pound loaf of good bread into thin slices. Spread them with butter as for eating. Lay them in a pudding dish—sprinkle between each layer of bread seeded raisins, and citron cut in small pieces or strips. Beat eight eggs with four tablespoonsful of rolled sugar, mix them with three pints of milk and half of a grated nutmeg. Turn the whole on the bread in the pan, and let it remain till the bread has taken up full half the milk; then bake about three quarters of an hour.

In making boiled puddings it is essential that there should be water enough to keep the pudding covered, and that it should not be allowed to stop boiling from the commencement to the close.—Water may be kept boiling in a tea kettle to pour in, as that in the pot boils away. An old plate at the bottom of the pot will prevent the pudding from sticking, and when it is done, if the bag is dipped in cold water, it will come out of the bag easier.—*Anon.*

SLAP-JACKS.—Mix one pint of Indian meal and four spoonsful of flour into one quart of new milk; add four eggs and a little salt. Bake on a griddle, as buck-wheat cakes, and serve hot. with fresh butter.

TALLOW CANDLES.—As this is the season of the year in which the farmers in the country make up their supply of tallow candles, I take the liberty of communicating some information, through the columns of the Journal, which they will find useful. I have frequently seen persons engaged in dipping candles in tallow, boiling hot, and in a vessel not full, and when the wicks, or half formed candles were let into the tallow and again raised out, the tallow would run a stream from the candles, and nearly all run off the wick or candle, and what of it did remain would be at the bottom and much of it entirely below the wick making it bell shaped. These difficulties may be all avioded by observing the following directions, viz: Melt the tallow gradually and when ready for use, let it be cool enough to dip the finger in without burning,—it will then be of a greyish color;—let the vessel in which the candles are dipped, be so full as that the tallow will reach within one inch of the wick, and keep it at that height by adding fresh tallow or hot wa-

ter—lower down the wick or candle into the tallow very slow, and raise it out so slow that the tallow will cool on the candle as fast as it is lifted : in this way the candle will be as large at the top as at the bottom, and no melted tallow will run from them. A little practice, observing these directions, will be convincing.—A little barbary or bees wax, melted with the tallow, and used at the last two or three dippings, will add to the hardness of the candles for summer use. Avoid dipping candles in excessive cold weather, to prevent their cracking.—*Jour. Com.* M.

HOMMONY.—Will not some of our Southern friends tell us Yankees how to prepare this delicious dish? If we had not had recourse to Webster we should have spelt it *Homine*, supposing it obtained its name from its adaptedness to the genus *homo*.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST.

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

FEBRUARY, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

JOHN DEAN CATON,	of Will Co.,	Pres.
LEVI HILLS,	" La Salle "	Vice Pres.
HOLDER SISSON,	" Will "	
LEWIS ELLSWORTH,	" Du Page "	
JAS. T. GIFFORD,	" Kane "	
SETH WASHBURN,	" McHenry "	
WM. B. OGDEN,	" Cook "	Trees.
JNO. S. WRIGHT,	" do. "	Rec.Sec.
Do.	" do. "	Cor.Sec.

AGENTS.—In some instances where individuals have sent their subscriptions immediately upon seeing a copy of our paper, we have appointed them agents; supposing that if at first sight they were willing to encourage the undertaking by subscribing, they would submit to be taxed to aid the Society in its enterprise, and would probably make the most efficient of all agents.

Some few of them at a distance have not yet subscribed. We hope all such will immediately procure their five subscribers; and that those who have already forwarded their dollar will soon send such a number as will entitle them to retain the sixth for their commission. Please send along a five dollar bill in advance, as some others have done. You will soon obtain the subscribers for it.

TO THE COMMITTEES OF THE U. A. S.—We want very much to enter the names of the subscribers to the Capital Stock of the U. A. S., in a book prepared for the purpose. We want the county, precinct, and post-office address, with the name in full of each subscriber, and the name or names of the Committee or Commissioner who procured the subscription. And we want the names *soon*, that the book may be prepared for exhibition at the expected meetings. Do not let any one think it immaterial if he makes no return, or if he postpones it for a while. You may as well do it now as at any future time.

If any of them have not procured subscribers, (we hope these are few,) it is necessary or them also to send a report, stating the reason why subscribers are not obtained. If any object to the plan of operation, and have good reasons for not connecting themselves with the Society, the Committees should name them, that if possible they may be obviated.

Some precincts, particularly in Kane co., have not had appointments made in them. It is desirable names should be furnished of those who should be appointed.

We repeat the request, that every Committee-man and Commissioner would send us a report *without fail and soon*.

PROTECTIVE TARIFF.—Especially should Government foster and encourage those branches of industry, newly entered upon, and which will after a season prove a fruitful source of wealth to the nation. The silk culture is one of these. It is with us, comparatively speaking, a new business, and it is difficult to induce individuals to engage in it; but if by a protective tariff on imported silks, and by bounties from our State Governments, it should be made an object, how valuable it might be made to us. The Journal of the American Silk Society states the value of the silk imported into the United States, during the year ending 30th Sept., 1839, to be almost twenty-three millions of dollars, of which more than seven millions were duty free. Probably the importations under the present tariff, will amount to as much or more for years to come; and if the money is suffered to go from the country, when a very large part of it might be retained, whose fault is it but the Government's? Were a pretty heavy duty imposed for a few years, till farmers and others should become engaged in it, the duty might be gradually lessened, without danger of the business being abandoned. We hope soon to see much silk raised in Illinois; and our State and the entire West, where the climate seems so favorable to its culture, is deeply interested in this measure.

It may, be good will result to the country from the present embarrassed condition of the Treasury; for should there be an alteration in the tariff, which it seems the wants of Government will certainly require, the imported luxuries, of which silk is the principal, will be the first to be taxed; and we most ardently hope it will be considered necessary to make that tax heavy—the heavier the better.

We have been led to these reflections by the following extracted from the Baltimore American:

"It is important that the wines and silks of France should be made to bear a duty for the two fold purpose, first, of counteracting a restrictive foreign policy, and 2ndly, because they constitute a legitimate subject for revenue. There is another reason perhaps more weighty than either, going to confirm the same thing. We can raise both in our own country. In restricting the importation of these articles from abroad, we shall give encouragement to their production at home, and by so doing the agricultural interest will be fostered. The experiments which have been made in the culture of silk in various parts of the United States, show conclusively that the article can be produced here, of good quality and in any abundance which the wants of the country may call for. To this sort of self-dependence the policy of foreign nations is driving us. It will perhaps be seen that our best interests point the same way."

DITCHING MACHINE.—At one of the meetings of the Ills. State Agricultural Society, there was exhibited by the inventor, a model of a machine for ditching. Our engagements were such that we could not pay the attention to his description of its mode of operating that we wished; but it seemed well calculated to effect its object. A memorandum containing a slight sketch of it, the name of the inventor, &c., has been lost. He was making an application for a patent, and when that is procured we shall doubtless hear more of it. A drawing was promised us that it might be engraved, and we hope ere long to receive it.

A ditching machine of the right kind is very much needed on our prairies. We do not now think of any invention that would be more valuable to the West. Our extensive prairie would then be entered upon with greater alacrity, for a means for fencing them would be provided.

The machine in question was to be worked by one pair of horses, and would make fifteen rods of ditch per day.

WHITE PIGEON BEET SUGAR MANUFACTORY.—In connexion with the articles prepared for this paper upon Beet Sugar, a description of the progress and success of the enterprise at White Pigeon would be quite apropos. There was one commenced there on quite an extensive scale, but of its result we are ignorant. Will not some of our White Pigeon friends send us an account of it?

LEVI HILLS, Esq., V. P. of the U. A. S. from La Salle co., has recently sold his farm of about 355 acres for $8000. There is a good stone house, and the improvements are probably worth about $3000. This would leave the land $14 per acre, which shows real-estate, in desirable neighborhoods like that of Lisbon, has some value to it.

All friends of the UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY would much regret the sale if, on account of it, Mr. Hills should remove out of the district. We hope he will not, but will find a farm to his liking somewhere in these seven counties.

His stock, &c., was not included in the above amount but sold separately. His fine Long-horned Durham bull was bought for $300.

Mr. H. has not yet sent us his report upon swine; and Mr. Ellsworth appointed with him on that Committee, it seems has also had other engagements. Please let us hear from you, gentlemen.

HEDGING.—Mr. Churchill's letter upon hedging, will be read with interest; and as it is a most important subject to our prairie farmers, we hope to receive many more articles upon it.

PEACH TREES ON PERSIMON STOCKS.—There is an abundance of the persimon in many parts of the West, and lovers of the peach, (who is not?) will be glad to learn the following, taken from the Farmer's Advocate, N. C. Should the persimon be sufficient of transplanting, as the Editor suggests, the winter season should be embraced for that purpose. If the tree is removed with a large amount of earth frozen around the roots, and placed in a hole prepared for it, it would probably start out in the spring vigorously. Removing trees in winter would cost labor, it is true; but it is worth labor; and many a day might be spent with profit in doing this, that would otherwise be passed in idleness.

"The Eutaw Whig, of Alabama, advises to engraft the peach upon a persimon stock, which the editor says may be successfully done. If so, and the graft is inserted a few inches above the ground, the process would certainly prove an effectual remedy against the depredations of the worm upon this valuable and now short lived fruit tree. For the worm attacks the tree only at and near the ground, and it would never attack the persimon. We doubt whether the persimon bears transplanting; it might therefore be necessary to raise from the seed in the place where it is to stand."

STEAMING APPARATUS.—Cooking food for animals, seems to be coming quite into vogue; especially with those who think enough on the subject, to be able to answer the question, "How would you like to be fed on raw vegetables?" A man probably would not starve to death with plenty of uncooked grain or roots before him, and on some of them, might even get fat; but it would take him some time to reach an Alderman's degree. So with animals. Though their stronger masticating powers enable them to prepare food for the stomach much better than man, yet experience has proven that it is a very great improvement, and economy both in time and expense of fattening, to cook an animal's food. As a general thing, an animal thrives best on that he eats with the greatest relish; and if a farmer adopts this as a rule, and will place the same kind of food before any of his creatures, from a hog to his blood horse, part cooked and part uncooked, he will very soon be able to satisfy himself as to which does him the most good. After one has been accustomed to food cooked, it will be with difficulty he will be made to eat it uncooked.

Having seen in the American Farmer a description of "a steam boiler worth having," copied from the Nashville Agriculturist, with queries, we think it worth while to insert a plan of ours (fig. 4.), and if others can do better, let them. In such an apparatus, the only way to arrive at perfection, is by comparing plans.

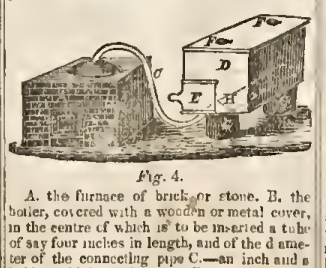


Fig. 4.

A. the furnace of brick or stone. B. the boiler, covered with a wooden or metal cover, in the centre of which is to be inserted a tube of say four inches in length, and of the diameter of the connecting pipe C.—an inch and a half would be sufficient. D. a wooden box, which if built 6 feet ✕ 2 ✕ 1. 9 inches, would hold about ten bushels. We have named this size as about what most farmers would require; and have given that proportion, that it might easily be divided into compartments, and different kinds of food cooked at once, or only a part of it used if at times all would not be required. In making the box grooves in the side and bottom could be easily made, in which slides dividing the box could be inserted at pleasure. E. a slide to let out the food. F. valves to let off the superfluous steam. A piece of board fastened with a leather hinge over a hole two inches in diameter, would answer the purpose. Weights can be put on them to keep in the steam, as much as the strength of the box would permit. G. blocks which should be only high enough to place under E. tubs or buckets for removing the food. H. a ridge of say six inches on the sides, and running nearly the length of the box, perforated with small holes for the passage of steam. This should be merely fastened with pins, so that it might be removed for cleaning or to substitute a shorter one in case the whole box was not required. Under this, and a little to one side of the centre, (so that it could be used if only half the box was in use,) place a tube similar to the one in the boiler. The pipe C. connecting the tubes, could then, when not in use, be removed to a place of safety.

The cover would be removed to put in the food. It should project over the sides of the box and be thick enough to make a groove in it to match the edge of the box. Then if the edge were bevilled, and a cloth placed on it, and the cover pressed down with a heavy weight, it would prevent the unnecessary escape of steam.

The sides of the furnace should be concave, leaving a few inches between them and the boiler to nearly its top. This will give the flames access to almost the entire surface of the boiler, and save much fuel. Messrs Farnsworth & Stone have boilers at $60, which are well calculated for the purpose. They are 26 inches across, and 14 inches deep, and will hold about 36 gallons. They have convex bottoms, with flaring sides for setting.

Doubtless individuals adopting the plan, while constructing or using the apparatus, would be able to improve upon it, especially those possessed of large means. Our object has been to contrive an apparatus, the entire expense of which would not exceed $20. A furnace and boiler, which makes the principal expense, is a most useful thing for other purposes. When hot water is required, as in slaughtering hogs, a great proportion of the fuel is saved by having a furnace.

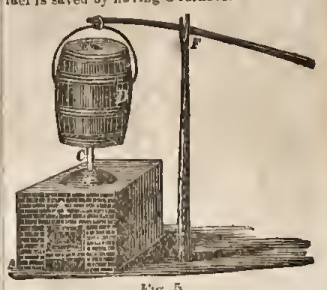


Fig. 5.

Mr. Joseph Vial of this county, who has thus far beat all the statements of farmers in their cultivation of Rohans, has given his plan for steaming, (fig. 5) which could be used by itself, or added with advantage and little cost to fig. 4. The cask D. has a false bottom at the dotted line, perforated with holes for the admission of steam, with a ball fastened to its sides, just enough above the centre to keep it perpendicular when at rest. When the food is cooked, it can then be raised by the sweep F. clear of the steam-pipe C. and swung round to casks or boxes; and upon removing the cover, it is easily tipped up and the food precipitated into things for removal. In this way many kinds of food can be cooked as may be wanted. E. is the valve for letting off the superfluous steam.

There is but one other suggestion we would make, and that is to insert in the side of the furnace a cock, to be connected by a metal pipe with the boiler, a few inches above its bottom. This pipe should be of copper to prevent its being melted, and either enclosed in a piece of a gun barrel or in brick work, to prevent its being burnt. Hot water can then be obtained, and also by turning the cock it can be ascertained if there be an abundance of water in the boiler.

MEETINGS OF THE U. A. S.—The coming spring, it is expected meetings of the Society will be held in the counties of Cook, McHenry, Kane and Lake. No meetings have been held in these counties, and it is desirable the farmers in them should assemble and determine what is best to be done. Addresses will be delivered at each meeting. It is with pleasure we state that Solon Robinson, Esq., of Lake co., Ia., will address the meeting at this place, which will be held the first part of April. We doubt not our correspondent, and who is more generally known through the columns of the Albany Cultivator, will obtain a full meeting of the Society.

SUBSCRIBER'S RECEIPTS.—We are frequently requested to send receipts for money paid for this paper. Our terms make it unnecessary. The reception of the third number of the paper will be evidence that the subscriber has paid for it one year. We shall not send the third number to any one who has not paid his dollar.

Individuals whose names have been furnished us by friends, may receive this or some of the previous numbers; and if they do not see fit to take the paper, we will thank them to return it, directed to "*The Union Agriculturist.*" Their name and P. O. should be marked on it.

BEES.—We have been requested to procure information as to the best treatment of bees, the best form of hives, &c. We have found a little matter upon this subject, and hope to procure more in season for the March number. Original articles would be more acceptable to our readers than anything we can select, and in this "land flowing with milk and honey," (while if not tame) it might be expected there would be some experience that would be valuable, and should be published. We hope to receive communications.

For a few numbers we shall discontinue publishing articles on cattle, that the room may be occupied with directions for gardening and spring work. Of course original seasonable articles on these subjects will be most acceptable.

An adjourned meeting of the friends of Agriculture was held in the Senate Chamber on Friday evening, the 15th January, Col. J. M Bradford in the chair. After reading the minutes of the last meeting,

Mr. Brown, chairman of the Committee appointed at the last meeting to report names of officers for the State Society, made a report as follows, which was concurred in.

For Pres't, Hon. Wm. Wilson, of White Co.

Vice Presidents.

1st Jud. Circuit—	Jos. Duncan, of Morgan co.	
	F. A. Olds, Macoupin	"
2nd.	W. F. Thornton, Shelby	"
	John McLaughlin, Fayette	"
3rd.	S. H. Anderson, Jefferson	"
	Rich'd G. Murphy, Perry	"
4th.	Leander Munsell, Edgar	"
	Isaac Froman, Vermillion	"
5th.	Arch. Williams, Adams	"
	Val. Wilson, Hancock	"
6th.	John Dixon, jr., Lee	"
	Geo. W. Lee, Winnebago	"
7th.	Wm. Smith, Will	"
	Wm. B. Ogden, Cook	"
8th.	H. G. Bowers, Sangamon	"
	N. W. Edwards.	"
9th.	W. Henderson, Putnam	"
	Edson Harkness, Peoria	"

Recording Sec'y, Isaac S. Britton, of Sangamon.

Corresponding do. John S. Wright, of Cook.

Treasurer, John Williams, of Sangamon.

A communication from J. D. Caton, President of the Union Agricultural Society, was read and laid on the table, whereupon, G. W. Little of Hancock co., offered the following resolution, which was adopted

Resolved, That an extensive circulation of agricultural papers is one of the most powerful means for effecting a general improvement in farming. That we learn with pleasure the establishment of a paper on the plan of the Union Agriculturist, and that it be adopted as the organ of the Society. That it be recommended to agricultural societies to keep this paper before their members—and that its members of this Society shall increase its circulation and correspondence as rapidly as possible.

Gen. Thornton, of Shelby, moved the appointment of a committee of three to call a subsequent meeting of the society when it may be deemed advisable.

Short addresses were made by Messrs. Robins, Little, Thornton, Polk and others.

The Nominating Committee having failed to report names for the Executive Committee, on motion of John S. Wright, the following persons were appointed, to wit: Messrs. Bradford, Brown, Allen and Robins, of Sangamon, and Little, of Hancock county.

Resolved, That the Secretary be instructed to furnish editors of papers in this city with a copy of the proceedings of this Society; and that the editors of papers throughout the State be requested to call the attention of their readers to the importance of the subject.

Mr. Polk presented a resolution requiring the appointment of a committee of five, to prepare an address to the people of the State upon the subject of agriculture; but he withdrew it upon the suggestion being made that the address of Judge Robins which might be expected at a subsequent meeting, would fully answer the purpose.

The meeting then adjourned.

JAS. M. BRADFORD, Ch'm.

John S. Wright, Sec'y.

A Farm House.—A draft of a farm house is about being prepared for this paper, and will be given in the next if possible. The plan will admit of the entire house being erected at once, or a part may be built at first, to be added to as the proprietor becomes able.

A neat style of building is of great importance to the beauty of a country, and taste may be used without greatly increasing the expense. We hope farmers when erecting permanent dwellings will bear this in mind, and take a little pains to procure correct architectural plans. Many times this course would save them outlays which they were unprepared to make; for if a farmer commences building without an estimate, or any definite plan, he will sometimes find the expense far exceeds his calculations.

While upon this subject, we cannot forbear adverting to the Southern manner of crowding the chimnies out of doors. The object is the first place was doubtless to make their houses as cool as possible; and as this necessity does not exist to so great a degree in this region, we hope the style may be abandoned. No house however elegantly constructed, will appear to good advantage with two or three or more immense "stacks of red chimneys" running up its sides. It does not comport with our ideas of Southern hospitality, to crowd so necessary a part of a dwelling out from shelter. Bring your chimnies into your house where they belong.

The best of riches is contentment; worst o poverty, low spirits.

Herefordshire Breed.—The breed of cattle during the past two or three years, has been obtaining considerable attention in many parts of the United States. We are not aware of there being any in Illinois. The Shorthorns have engrossed almost the entire attention of breeders of improved stuck. Whether this course is the best or not, we will not pretend to determine; but it would seem that a little experimenting with other breeds would be wise, and might result in great benefits.

The friends of the Herefordshire, who have been rapidly increasing, are warm in its praises. Several letters similar to Mr. Howard's which we publish, have recently appeared in the Albany Cultivator; whereas Youatt seems rather sceptical as to its superiority in general over other breeds.

There is one quality in which this breed excels, and which none of the writers deny, which is worthy of particular attention from Western farmers. It is that of fattening, and that too at an early age. Youatt says it is advantageous to the farmer to send them to market at three years of age, and that few cattle are more highly prized in the market than the genuine Herefords. This is a quality that is of the first importance with us, if it is to be an object to raise stock for the butcher. It most unquestionably will be, and we look forward to the time, and that not very distant either, when it will be no uncommon sight to see a farmer with his herd of several hundred fat cattle. How well, then, will it repay the farmer to pay attention to his breeds; and if able, incur considerable expense in the commencement in introducing those that will pay him best. Take it for only ten years, and how much more profitable will it be; though the profits for the second ten years will be many fold greater than for the first.

The Herefordshire white-faced breed, with the exception of a very few Alderney and Durham cows have almost exclusive possession of this county. The Hereford oxen are considerably larger than the North Devons. They are usually of a darker red; some of them are brown, and even yellow, and a few are brindled; but they are principally distinguished by their white faces, throats, and bellies. In a few the white extends to the shoulders. The old Herefords were brown or red-brown with not a spot of white about them. It is only within the last fifty or sixty years that it has been the fashion to breed for white faces. Whatever may be thought of the change of color, the present breed is certainly far superior to the old one. The hide is considerably thicker than that of the Devon, and the beasts are more hardy. Compared with the Devons, they are shorter in the leg, and also in the carcass; higher, and broader, and heavier in the chine; rounder and wider across the hips, and better covered with fat; the thigh fuller and more muscular, and the shoulders larger and coarser.

Mr. Marshall gives the following account of them: it is tolerably correct, but does not sufficiently distinguish them from their kindred breed. 'The countenance pleasant, cheerful, open; the forehead broad; eye full and lively; horns bright, taper, and spreading; head small; chap lean; neck long and tapering; chest deep; bosom broad, and projecting forward; shoulder-bone thin, flat, no way protuberant in bone, but full and mellow in flesh; chest full; loin broad; hips standing wide, and level with the chine; quarters long, and wide at the neck; rump even with the level of the back, and not drooping, nor standing high and sharp above the quarters; tail slender and neatly haired; barrel round and roomy; the carcass throughout deep and well spread; ribs broad, standing flat and close on the outer surface, forming a smooth, even barrel, the hindmost large and full of length; round bone small, snug, and not prominent; thigh clean, and regularly tapering; legs upright and short; bone below the knee and hock small; feet of middle size; flank large, flesh every where mellow, soft, and yielding pleasantly to the touch, especially on the chine, the shoulder,



The Herefordshire Cow, Fig. 6.

and the ribs; hide mellow, supple, of a middle thickness, and loose on the neck and huckle; coat neatly haired, bright and silky; color, a middle red, with a bald face characteristic of the true Herefordshire breed.'

They fatten to a much greater weight than the Devons, and run from ten to sixteen hundred pounds. A tolereble cow will average from seven to ten hundred pounds. A cow belonging to the Duke of Bedford weighed more than 1400 lbs.; and an ox belonging to Mr. Westcar exceeded 2200 lbs. They are not now much used for husbandry, tho' their form adapts them for the heavier work; and they have all the honesty and docility of the Devon ox, and greater strength, if not his activity. The Herefordshire ox fattens speedily at a very early age, and it is therefore more advantageous to the farmer, and perhaps to the country, that he should go to market at three years old, than be kept longer to be employed as a beast of draught.

They are far worse milkers than the Devons. This is so generally acknowledged, that while there are many dairies of Devon cows in various parts of the country, (none of which, however, are very profitable to their owners,) a dairy of Herefords is rarely to be found.

To compensate for this, they are even more kindly feeders than the Devons, and will live and grow fat where a Devon would scarcely live. Their beef may be objected to by some as being occasionally a little too large in the bone, and the forequarters being coarse and heavy; but the meat of the best pieces is often very fine-grained and beautifully marbled. There are few cattle more prized in the market than the genuine Herefords.

The Devons and the Herefords are both excellent breeds, and the prejudices of the Devonshire and Herefordshire farmers for their peculiar breed being set aside, a cross of the one will often materially improve the other. The Devon will acquire bulk and hardihood, and the Hereford a finer form and activity. The Hereford bull, and the West Highland or Kyloe cows, have been tried, but they did not feed so rapidly, nor weigh so well as the Hereford, and they had the defect of being extremely pugnacious.

Mr. Culley, although an excellent judge of cattle, formed a very erroneous opinion of the Herefords when he pronounced them to be nothing but a mixture of the Welsh with a bastard race of long-horns. They are evidently an aboriginal breed, and descended from the same stock as the Devons. If it were not for the white face, and somewhat larger head and thicker neck, it would not at all times be easy to distinguish between a heavy Devon and a light Hereford. Their white faces may probably be traced to a cross with their not distant relations, the Montgomeries.

The Hereford cow is apparently a very inferior animal. Not only is she no milker, but even her form has been sacrificed by the breeder. Herefordshire is more a rearing than a feeding county, and therefore the farmer looks mostly to the shape and value of his young stock; and in the choice of his cow, he does not value her or select her, or breed from her according to her milking qualities, or the price which the grazier would give for her, but in proportion as she possesses that general form which experience has taught him will render her likely to produce a good ox. Hence the Hereford cow is comparatively small and delicate, and some would call her ill-made. She is very light-fleshed when in common condition, and beyond that, while she is breeding, she is not suffered to proceed; but when she is actually put up for fattening, she spreads out, and accumulates fat at a most extraordinary rate. Our cut gives us the portrait of a beautiful cow, once belonging to the Earl of Egremont.

The breeder has been taught by experience, that when the cow, although she should be somewhat roomy, is too large and masculine, the ox will be brawny and coarse, and perhaps a little sluggish at work, and even somewhat unkind, and slow in the process of fattening, and these are objections which, most of all, he would be unwilling to have justly made. The Herefordshire cow is therefore somewhat undersized; and it not unfrequently happens that she produces a bull-calf that grows to three times her weight.

Kindly as the Hereford ox fattens, very few are grazed in their native country: even the beasts which the home consumption requires are principally heifers and old cows. The oxen are sold at five and six years old in tolerable condition, at the Michaelmas fair in Hereford, to the graziers of Buckinghamshire and the neighboring counties, by whom they are principally preferred for the London market.

The fertility of the soil in Herefordshire has been very much overrated. The traveller, and the superficial observer, have been misled by the luxuriant woods and rich alluvial soil upon the banks of its rivers. The pasture-grounds are generally poor, and the herbage is not nutritious, and therefore the farmer naturally confines his chief attention to his rearing-stock. The dairy has been comparatively neglected; for experience has proved that the breeding qualities of a cow are materially lessened, and even her form is deteriorated, by her being inclined to give a large quantity of milk.

We have concluded not to insert Mr. Howard's letter till the next No., as we want the room for other things.

The La Porte County Agricultural Society.—We learn with pleasure by the Michigan City Gazette, that this Society is about being revived. The only wonder is, that in such a county, a society should be allowed to die a natural death. There probably cannot be found anywhere, the same extent of territory of as recent settlement, that produces such a surplus of produce of all kinds. It might be expected that in such a county, an Agr. Soc. would be in efficient operation, and that the strife between farmers to raise the best crops, would show some yields that would seem incredible to Eastern friends. We should like to receive some of their statements for publication. We have often passed through the county, and as is universally the case with its visitors, with perfect admiration of its varied and delightful scenery—its undulating prairie, lakes and woodland.

We have reason to expect great good to result, not only to La Porte county, but to the entire West, from the improvements that will be made in prairie farming, and disseminated by means of the Society. We shall be well pleased to receive accounts of the Society's doings for publication.

In the January No. of the Farmer's Cabinet (Philadelphia,) is a copy of the engraving of the cow Helen McGregor, which was inserted in our last No. We see the name is spelt "Ellen." Which is right? From the cow being of Scottish origin, we supposed her to be named after Rob Roy's wife, whose name was Helen.

Millet.—Mr. Johnson Baldwin, of Spring Creek, in this county, last year, sowed half a bushel of millet seed. The drought injured the crop; yet he saved two tons of fodder, besides suffering enough of the millet to ripen to furnish him with seven bushels of seed. His experience in cultivating this crop, so far, justifies him in saying that it is a most valuable one. He sewed the millet in June, and cut it in August. It does not interfere with the cultivation or harvesting of wheat or corn—a valuable consideration where labor is scarce and dear.

Mr. Baldwin is so well satisfied with his experiment, that he will continue the cultivation of millet—at least, until further experience proves it to be unprofitable,—which is not likely to be the case.

Mr. Baldwin has several bushels of the seed for sale.—*Sang. Jour.*

Many a farm when fresh, has been rendered sterile and unproductive in a few years, by skimming the surface. Deep ploughing brings up latent animal and vegetable particles favorable to the growth of plants, renders the soil loose and friable, and above all, prevents the ground from washing. Hilly land should always be ploughed in a circular direction, and if at the same time it is broken deep, it is rarely the case that hills will not retain all the rain that falls upon them.—*Agriculturist.*

Virtue which is not supported with gravity gains no respect amongst men.

THE MEETING AT NAPERVILLE.—Was a most interesting one, and very encouraging to the prospects of the Society in Du Page county. A letter was received by the President from Jas. T. Gifford, Esq., and read to the Society, stating that unexpected business prevented him from fulfilling his engagement to deliver an address, but that he had engaged another gentleman (Mr. Lovel) to supply his place, who was prevented from being present by sickness.

The court-room was filled, notwithstanding the rain; and after the President had given a brief explanation of the objects of the Society, about fifty shares of the Capital Stock were subscribed for.

A code of by-laws was adopted section by section, and the report accepted, of the Committee appointed at a previous meeting to make inquiries with regard to the establishment of an agricultural paper by the Society, its expense, &c.; and one hundred dollars appropriated to commence its publication. Some other business was transacted, the most important of which was the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That committees of two persons be appointed by the President to examine the following subjects, and report to the Society:

The several breeds of *Hogs*, and the best method of fattening pork.

The several breeds of *Neat Cattle*, and the peculiar excellencies of each,

The several breeds of *Sheep*, and those best adapted to the prairies, their management, &c.

The different kinds of *Mulberry*, that best suited to the West, and the best method of manufacturing raw silk, adapted particularly to Western farmers;

The *Sugar Beet*, its tillage, and the best and cheapest process of manufacturing sugar from it adapted to farmers generally.

The value of various *Esculent Roots* in feeding stock.

The President has appointed the following gentlemen on the Committees.

On *Neat Cattle*, Dr. Thomas of Kane co. and Col. Wm. Gooding of Will.

On *Swine*, Lewis Ellsworth, Esq., V. P., of Du Page co. and Levi Hills, Esq., V. P. of La Salle co.

On *Sheep*, Joseph Granger, Esq. of Kane co. and Sam'l Hoard, Esq. of Cook co.

On *Mulberry and Silk*, Burgess Truesdell, Esq. of Lane and Rev. Isaac Foster of Will co.

On the *Sugar Beet*, Jas. T. Gifford, Esq. of Kane and Dr. A. W. Bowen of Will co.

The other Committees the President has not been able, as yet, to fill to his satisfaction.

FARMING IN WINTER.—What shall a farmer, *as* a farmer, do in winter? He has *much* to do in winter, peculiar to his profession—in his house, in his barn, in the woods and at market. There is no need of his being idle. He has a great deal to do for the promotion of his interests. In the first place, if the rigors of the season drive him in doors, let him think himself a lucky man, for it is in the *family* that his first and most important duties are due. Has he a wife and children? Let him make the first his companion, friend, and equal, and let him devote his thoughts and labors for the instruction and improvement of his children. See that they are well and tidily clad. See that they go to school, and are furnished with suitable books. See that their winter evenings are employed in useful reading and study —with innocent amusements intermixed,—rather than in visiting the haunts of dissipation and ruin. Let the winter be devoted to the duties of the fireside, and the calls of social intercourse.

Having every thing in order in the house, both as it respects the physical, moral, and intellectual wants of his family, let his next attention be devoted to the domesticated animals of the barn and fold. See that they are well fed. Keep the stalls clean. Blanket the horses, and if you do the same to the cows so much the better. Make sure of as warm a place for them all as possible. Give them straw beds to sleep upon. Comfortable animals will thrive best, and give back the best returns.

In day time, when the children are at school, go into the woods and cut and haul out wood enough to keep a year's stock of seasoned fuel beforehand. This is the best economy. Take an opportunity for good sleighing to convey to market whatever you have to sell, and to make the necessary purchases for the use of the family. In short, every farmer has enough to do in winter, and that *well* done is often the most important and profitable labor of the whole year. Keep stirring and do good.—*Maine Cultivator.*

AGE OF SHEEP.—The age of sheep may be known by examining the front teeth. They are eight in number, and appear during the first year, all of a small size. In the second year, the two middle ones fall out, and their places are supplied by two new teeth, which are easily distinguished by being of a larger size. In the third year two other small teeth, one from each side, drop out, and are replaced by two large ones; so that there are now four large teeth in the middle, and two pointed ones on each side. In the fourth year the large teeth are six in number, and only two small ones remain, one at each end of the range. In the fifth year the remaining small teeth are lost, and the whole front teeth are large. In the sixth year the whole begin to be worn, and in the seventh, sometimes sooner, some fall out or are broken. —*Mountain Shepherd's Manual.*

Extract from Mr. Biddle's Address, at a late Agricultural Exhibition in Philadelphia.

Another defect of our farming is that we do not raise sheep enough. Some years since, we were among the first to import the merinos, and to indulge in the wildness of that extravagance, until we had secured vast numbers of these high-priced animals, without any previous accumulation of roots to sustain them, and then found that we should have to purchase expensive food for them. That at once disenchanted us. It was then seen that not only in palaces but in sheep-folds, "a favorite has no friends." To enthusiasm succeeded disappointment and disgust, and these unhappy victims were sacrificed to the knife for no other crime than their appetite. We have not yet outgrown this horror; but it was entirely our own fault. There are many parts of the State where sheep would take care of themselves, in the woods, during the greater part of the year; and the root-crops would furnish a cheap and wholesome support during the remainder.

And this leads to the great improvement, which of all others, we most need, which is the multiplication of root-crops.

No soil can withstand a succession of grain crops; and instead of letting it lie fallow in order to recruit from its exhaustion, as was the old plan, the better practice now is to plant in the same field a crop of roots. These draw their nourishment from a lower region than the grain crops do; they derive a great part of their food from the atmosphere, by their large leaves, which at the same time shelter the soil from the extreme heats; they provide a fresh and juicy food for cattle during the winter, thus enabling us to keep a large stock, which, in addition to the profit on them, furnish abundant manure with which to return to the grain crops. Now this should be our effort; more roots, more cattle, more manure, then more grain. We cannot much err in the choice of these roots. Common turnips, Swedish turnips, mangel wurzel, all are good, though in various degrees; but perhaps the sugar-beet will be found the best of all; not for the purpose, at least at present, of making sugar, but as the most nutricious food for cattle, and the most milk-producing vegetable for cows in winter. These root-crops will grow abundantly; and what I should especially desire to see, is that we would confide in our mild and long autumns, and see if they would not yield us a crop of roots planted immediately as the grain harvest were removed, so as to be ready by winter for the cattle.

In fruits, too, we are deficient. Our climate invites us to plant; and there is scarcely a single fruit which will not grow in the open air, and all of them prosper with a little shelter. Undoubtedly there are insects which infest them; but these care will exterminate.—Undoubtedly some species are short-lived, but it is easy to provide a succession; and even many productions which we used to think uncongenial to our climate, will succeed if we will only try them. For instance, I am satisfied, from my own experience, that every farmer may have his patch of grapes quite as readily as he can his patch of beans or peas. He has only to plant his cuttings, as he would Indian corn, at sufficient distances to work them with the hoe harrow. They will live through the winter without any covering, and with less labor than Indian corn, because the corn requires replanting every year, while the vines will last for a century. He will thus provide a healthful pleasant fruit for his family use, or a profitable article for the market.

I was about to make one more improvment, but I hesitate about it—I mean the substitution of oxen for horses on farms. All the theory is in favor of the ox. He costs little, works hard, he eats little, and when we have done with him has a worth more than when we began—whereas a horse costs much, eats much, and when he dies is worth comparatively nothing. Yet, after all, it will be difficult to bring the ox into fashion. He has a failing which, in this country, is more fatal than madness to a dog—he cannot "go ahead"—and it seems a severe trial for our impatient American nature to creep behind an ox-plough, or to doze in an ox-cart. And then there is a better reason, on small farms, where both oxen and horses cannot be kept, for the preference of the horse. The ox can do only farm-work, and is utterly useless for the road. He is of no benefit to the farmer's family. We can neither make a visit with him, nor go to the church with him—and if the present immense political assemblies are to continue in fashion, they would be like the buffalo meetings in the prairies, and it would be more difficult than it now is in political conventions to find out whose ox gored his neighbor's.

VALUABLE TABLE.—A few days ago I was much in want of some dry measures of capacity, as I had often been before; but this circumstance had never led me until then to think of the vast numbers of house keepers, especially farmers, who suffer inconvenience from the same cause; in fact, I do not believe I should err, in rating them at 99 in every 100. Why they continue to do so, they themselves can best tell; but it occurred to me that I might perhaps render them an acceptable service by publishing a list of boxes in a square form, which I made out for my own use, to contain the following quantities, to-wit: a barrel, half barrel, bushel, half bushel, peck, half peck, gallon, half gallon, and quart. The square shape was preferred, as being far easier both to make and to calculate, and the list was immediately sent to my friend Mr. Ruffin, editor of the Farmer's Register. But as many read the Cultivator who never see his paper, I now send the same statement to you, that you also may publish it, if you think it may be useful. A similar table is not to be found in any book that I have ever seen; although it is perfectly obvious to every body that it is much wanted. The advantage to buyers especially, would be considerable; for they could always ascertain whether they received their proper quantity of any thing sold by dry measure, if they would only carry the table in their memories, or on a memorandum, together with a small rule in their pockets.

TABLE.

A box 24 inches by 16 in. square, and 28 in. deep will contain a barrel, or 10,752 cubic inches.

A box 24 inches by 16 in. square, and 14 in. deep will contain a half barrel, 5,376 cubic inches.

A box 16 inches by 16 8-10 in. square, and 8 in. deep will contain a bushel, or 2,150 4-10 cubic inches.

A box 12 inches by 11 2-10 in. square, and 8 in. deep will contain a half bushel, or 1,075 2-10 cubic inches.

A box 8 inches by 8 4-10 in. square, and 8 in. deep will contain one peck, or 537 7-10 cubic inches.

A box 8 inches by 8 in. square, and 4 2-10 in. deep will contain one half peck, or 268 8-10 cubic inches.

A box 7 inches by 4 in. square, and 4 8-10 in. deep will contain half a gallon, or 134 4-10 cubic inches.

A box 4 inches by 4 in. square, and 4 2-10 in. deep will contain one quart, 67 2-210 cubic inches.

These measures all come within a small fraction of a cubic inch of being perfectly accurate, as near, indeed, as any measure of capacity have ever yet been made for common use; the difficulty of making them with absolute exactness, has never yet been overcome.

In addition, gentlemen, to the motive already stated, for making this communication to you, I offer it as some small return for the instruction and entertainment which I have already received from your highly useful paper; and beg you to accept my very sincere wishes for its future prosperity. I remain, gentlemen, very respectfully, your obedient servant. JAS. M. GARNETT.

Sept. 22, 1840. *Cultivator.*

THE OTTAWA MEETING OF THE U. A. S., was convened pursuant to notice, on the 21st Nov., and called to order by the President. The minutes of the last meeting were read, together with the by-laws, and several individuals subscribed to the Capital Stock.

The committee of three, to report nominations of individuals on committees created by the Society, was filled by the Pres. by appointing on it, Saml. McCarthy, of Kane co., Wm. Seeley and Henry Green, of La Salle co.

After a statement by the Pres. of the plan and objects of the Society, and further subscriptions to the Capital Stock, the meeting was adjourned till 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Society having again met, a report was called for from the committee on nominations. According to the charter and by-laws, five of the Trustees were to be appointed as a *Board of Managers*. The committee reported for that board, Wm. B. Peck of Will co., Wm. B. Ogden of Cook, Lewis Ellsworth of Du Page, Rice Fay of Kane, and Levi Hills of La Salle co., which report was accepted, and the individuals appointed accordingly. They also reported the names of the following members as the *Committee on Fairs*, to serve for the coming year, viz: Beejn. Douglass of La Salle co., Russell Whipple of Du Page, Allen P. Hubbard of Kane, John Blackstone of Will, and Peter W. Deitz of McHenry co., which report was also accepted, and the individuals appointed.

The following resolutions were presented and adopted.

By Henry Green, Resolved, That the President appoint a committee of three, to examine the Charter of the U. A. S., and if amendments are necessary, procure the passage of an act by the Legislature this coming session, making the alterations required.

By Jno. S. Wright, Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the President, to revise the bye-laws, and propose amendments to be submitted to the Society at its next meeting, prior to their publication.

By J. W. Helme, Resolved, That the President appoint a committee of seven, one from each county, to ascertain a suitable location for a farm for the Society, the cost of it, &c., and make a report to the Society at its next meeting.

G. A. O. Beaumont, Esq., then delivered an address prepared for the occasion.

On motion of Jno. S. Wright, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented Mr. Beaumont, for his interesting address, and a copy requested for publication in the Union Agriculturist.

J. W. Helme moved the addition of the following article to the bye-laws. "Art. XV. Sec. (1). Individuals residing out of the limits of the Act of Incorporation, may be elected honorary members by the Society, at any regularly called meeting."

"(2.) Honorary members may take part in the proceedings of the meetings, and may vote upon any question except the adoption of by-laws, and the election of officers."

After the adoption of the above article, the Society adjourned *sine die.*

TO MANAGE A REARING HORSE.—In preference to the dangerous experiment of pulling a rearing horse backward, I recommend the adoption of the following methods. Whenever you perceive the horse's inclination to rear, separate your reins and prepare for him; the instant he is about to rise, slacken one hand and bend or twist his head with the other, keeping your hands low. The bending compels him to move a hind leg, and of necessity brings his fore legs down. Instantly twist him completely round two or three times, which will confuse him very much, and completely throw him off his guard. The moment you have finished twisting him around, place his head in the position you wish him to proceed, apply the spur sharply, and he will not fail to go forward. If the situation be convenient, press him into a gallop, and apply the spur or whip two or three times severely. The horse, perhaps, will not be quite satisfied with the first defeat, but may be disposed to try again for the mastery.—Should this be the case, you have only to twist etc. as before, and you will find in the second struggle he will be more easily subdued than on the first occasion—in fact, you will see him quail under the operation. It rarely happens that a rearing horse, after having been treated in the way prescribed, will resort to his tricks a third time. But on going into other hands, and having another rider, he will be very likely to have recourse to rearing.—*Amer. Farm.*

THUMPS IN HOGS.—This malady has been the cause of no inconsiderable perplexity and loss to our swine breeders. We have seen many prescriptions for its cure, but heretofore not one rational attempt to discover its cause, these prescriptions therefore are probably mere quackery, or the suggestions of conjecture.

We are highly gratified in laying before our readers the following communication on the subject by one of the most intelligent and extensive breeders of the improved varieties of hogs in Kentucky. Dr. Martin's examinations seem to warrant his theory of the character of this disease. If his conclusions be correct, any prescription which will check and relieve inflamation will be the remedy. It will be observed, the Doctor says, that his hogs "*got well*"—not that the medicine which he gave relieved them. The provision of suitable protection to which the stock may retreat during unfavorable weather would be to a great extent a means of *prevention*, which at first occurs to us.

I had some pigs taken with the thumps last spring. The disease showed itself at first only when the pigs had taken some exercise. It is in appearance, very similar to the same disease in the horse. After being thus affected for some time, in those to whom the disease proved fatal, tha thumping became constant.

I killed one that had it very badly for the purpose of ascertaining the nature of the disease. Upon opening him I found the bag that surrounds the heart, (the *pericardeum*) attached to the covering of the breast bone and ribs on the inside (the *pleura*), in the whole extent where they came in contact. The heart was very much enlarged, and the substance of it not as firm as usual, in a healthy animal. The lungs were attached very firmly to the ribs. The substance of the lungs was also very much diseased with scrofulous tumors in them.

From the appearance it was evident that the disease had been caused by violent inflamation. I had very little hope that any remedy would

be successful; but as it was recommended by one of my neighbors, I mixed such portions of tar with their food as they would eat, adding also some flour of sulphur, and nearly all that eat of it got well. One continued to thump until he was fattened and killed this fall. He did not fatten as kindly as the others that had never had the malady, but was tolerably fat. I was from home when he was killed, and thereby deprived of the opportunity of examining him when he was opened.

I attribute this disease, in my pigs, to the changeable weather we had in the spring; an unusual fatness in the pigs attacked with it, predisposing them to inflamatory diseases.

Some of my neighbors with whom I have conversed, attribute it to dust, which the pigs get into their lungs in their sleeping places — This no doubt would have a tendency to irritate the lungs, and may be one cause. But exposure to great changes whereby they take cold, is no doubt the chief cause.—*Ken. Far.*

The American Mechanic.—Whatever may be the "pomp, glory, circumstance," of the great men of the world—whatever may be the dazzling pageantry of high life—the glitter of fashionable society, and splendid misery of those who believe that "Those who think must govern those who toil;" there is no situation more enviable than that of the plain American mechanic—free for every thing for which Heaven designed him; untrammelled in his opinions, and left to the guidance of his own genius he walks erect in the full stature of a man. Earning, with his own hands, the means by which he supports himself; protected by a government, which, like the sun, sheds its light—its fostering care upon all—who shall gainsay his right to enjoy the fruits of his labor, in the way which best may please him? Under our government, prudence, industry and economy, are sure to meet with their reward, and it should be remembered by every mechanic, that the road to preferment and official dignity is open to every one. All that the people want in those that serve them is fidelity and patriotism—truth to the Constitution, and intelligence enough to perform their duty. How much, then, it behooves the American mechanic to make himself worthy the highest honor the people can confer. It is the duty of every American to render himself competent to act no all occasions as becomes an American citizen. Intelligence, education and study, are within the reach of every human being.—*Anon.*

Disseminating Agricultural Information.—Many discoveries from which material improvements have resulted, have been entirely accidental. Others have been merely suggested by a close observation of cause and effect, or a previous study of the laws of nature, and tested by actual experience. These discoveries from which such great improvements have been made, and resulted in such incalculable benefits to mankind, might each have remained confined within the limits of a single neighborhood, had it not been for the publication of Agricultural Journals. But whenever any new improvement is made, and sufficiently tested to confirm its utility, it is, or at least ought to be communicated for publication in one or more Agricultural Papers; it is then copied from one paper to another, until it becomes known to many thousand readers. Hence, those who read Agricultural Papers, may directly inform themselves of the improvements that are making throughout the country—the most approved modes of cultivation and improving the different kinds of soils, together with the best implements of husbandry; the most admired varieties of the various kinds of grain, roots, fruits, field and garden vegetables etc.; the best or most approved breeds of stock, with the most advantageous plans of rearing and managing them; and in addition to these, they occasionally treat of many other important subjects, calculated to improve the mind.

We have endeavored to show how information on agricultural subjects may be obtained; and also, enumerated some of the advantages peculiar to agricultural publications, by which it may be plainly seen, that those who read them attentively, and judiciously reduce to practice, the hints presented, may move considerably in advance of those who can only accede to an improvement after his reading neighbor has for a year or two, or perhaps more, been realizing its profits.—*Farmer's Adv.*

Effects of Grafting Fruit.—That scions will produce fruit similar to trees from which they are taken is a fact well known; but many persons are mistaken in supposing the scions govern wholly, and that the stocks have no influence. The scions govern mostly, but as the stocks have some effect in many respects, it is important to horticulturists to examine the subject, and learn all the various effects produced by stocks, as in many cases it may be turned to great advantage, and in others much disadvantage may be avoided.

Stocks have an effect as to bearing years. Scions cut from trees that bear in alternate years, and put into stocks that bear every year, or in alternate years different from the trees from which the scions were taken, will bear every year, though they may have their full and scanty years of bearing. This principle will be of great advantage to the fruit grower, as it will enable him to raise fruit annually of those kinds that without grafting, or by grafting, on stocks that bear in the same alternate years would only yield their fruit every second year.

Stocks affect the scions in hastening or retarding the ripening of fruit. Fruit that ripens too late may be forwarded by engrafting it on stocks that ripen their fruit earlier, and the reverse. This may be turned to good account, and the same fruit may be had in succession by grafting on stocks that ripen their fruit at different periods. We have seen accounts of fruit being accelerated in its ripening one month by this method. Some fruits that are too late for our Northern climate might be ripened here by engrafting on earlier stocks. In this way some excellent kinds of fruits that are now too late, might be ripened in season.

Stocks produce defects on grafted fruit. Stocks that have produced fruit with rotten cores, or with water cores, will in some cases produce the same effect in a smaller degree on fruit engrafted on them. We noticed an apple tree that produced water cores in abundance; some of the apples were full of water, which could be plainly seen through the peel. The Newton Sweeting was engrafted in the tree, and some of the apples were water cores.

Stocks affect the color of fruit. We have seen apples of the same kind of different colors owing to the scions being set on different stocks. Some of the apples were red, others of a bright yellow.

Stocks affect the quality of fruit. Scions of the Baldwin apple were set in two trees; one tree bore very unpleasant fruit, the other bore apples of a very sharp sour, but they had a very rich spicy flavor when mellow; we now have apples from both trees, and we can perceive a difference in the fruit, and that which grew on the last named tree resembles the fruit of that stock in their peculiar rich flavor. Butter or Melting pears are grafted on quince stocks in order to give solidity to the flesh; some kinds are made valuable in that way which otherwise would not be worth cultivating. It is evident that sweet apples, in order to attain their sweetness in full, should be engrafted into sweet apple stocks. We seldom see sweet apples from scions so sweet as natural fruit, owing, doubtless, to their being grown on sour stocks.

Stocks have an influence on increasing or decreasing the size of fruit. We have seen accounts of fruit being increased one half in size by being grafted in trees that produced much larger fruit. Perhaps the increase in size was owing in part to the thrift of the scion, as sometimes an improvement is made in that way without any influence of the stock, otherwise than applying an abundance of sap. We grafted the Winter Sweeting into a sweet apple tree, that the sweetness of the fruit might not be depreciated; the tree produced excellent fruit, very sweet and good to keep, but it was very small—the scions produced good fruit that kept long, but it was as small as the fruit of the stock; whether that was its common size or not we do not know, but suppose it was owing in a measure to the stocks.

These facts will be very profitable to the growers of fruit, and if any of our readers learn from experiment or observation anything that corroborate or illustrate these principles or tend to contradict them, we should be pleased to hear from the subject.—*Yankee Farmer.*

Disadvantages of feeding entirely on Dry Food.—Horses and cattle fed on chopped oats or rye straw in its dry state, will obstinately refuse to take up all that is put in their troughs, and what they consume will be less nutritious than when slightly fermented. The process is this following, to feed on a cheap plan and keep stock in better health and general condition, than with any other system. Have a box of sufficient size to contain all the food for your animals for one time feeding, cut oats, rye, or even wheat straw, and mix with it one half gallon of Indian or rye meal for each beast, sprinkle in a little salt with water enough to moisten the whole mass, let it stand before feeding at least twelve hours, or till it acquires a slight acid taste; then give it to the stock in the proportions you measured in, and your horses and cattle will be so fond of it, they will lick up every straw, keep fat and do well. By this mode I have found, from three years experience, that horses and cows will do better than upon all the corn and dry fodder you can give them.—*Ag.* T. F. Con.

Censure is the tax a man pays to the public for being eminent. It is a folly for an eminent man to think of escaping, and a weakness to be affected by it.

Committees of the U. A. S. appointed by the Commissioners to obtain subscriptions to the Capital Stock.

They will also act as agents for the 'Union Agriculturist.'

Many of these we have not heard from since their appointment; and as the advancement of the Society depends mainly upon their exertions, we hope soon to receive returns from them all. Each one has been furnished with a subscription book, explaining the plan and objects of the Society; and if any of them are lost, they should procure others from the Secretary. It is expected we shall have several interesting meetings in the spring, but their interest will depend upon the number of *members* in attendance. Let each Committee then, feel the necessity of devoting some time *soon*, to the procuring of subscribers.

If there is any one not appointed, who feels sufficient interest in this important enterprise, to engage in procuring subscribers, we hope he will not fail to send his name to the Secretary, who is authorised to make appointments, and he shall be appointed.

LAKE COUNTY.

Seth Washburn, Commissioner.

Zuni Precinct.
V. H. Freeman,
Oliver Booth.
Middlesex Pre.
Seth Washburn,
Matthias Mason.
Fort Hill Pre.
J. Wood
Bristol Pre.
Darius Gage.

Mill Creek Pre.
William Ladd.
Burlington Pre.
H. B Steele,
Jared Gage,
Samuel Brooks.
Oak Pre.

Lake Pre.
Nelson Loudon,
E. Sunderland.

McHENRY COUNTY.

William M. Jackson, Commissioner.

McHenry.
Benjamin B. Brown,
Virginia Pre.
Charles Walker,
Zina S. Beardsley.

Kishwaukee.
William M. Jackson.
Nipersnet.
Capt. N. H. Foster.

KANE COUNTY.

George McClure, John R. Livingston, } Commissioners.

Dundee.
Gen. Geo. McClure,
Alfred Edwards.
St. Charles.
Ira Minerd,
Otho Perkins.
Lake Pre.
Noah B Spalding.

Elgin.
James T. Gifford,
Colton Knox.
Fairfield.
Seth Stowell.
Deerfield Pre.
Elijah Rich,
Marcus Ransted.

COOK COUNTY.

John S. Wright, Commissioner.

Monroe Pre.
James Long,
Curtis Clark,
Silas Meacham.
Des Plaines Pre.
Socrates Rand,
S. W. Salisbury,
Samuel Hoard.
Thornton Pre.
B. Butterfield,
N. Rexford.
Ausaugaoaske Pre.

Summit Pre.
James E. Bishop,
Miram A. Gooding.
Hanover Pre.
B. Butler,
Lucius A. Manning,
Luther Herrick.
Lyons Pre.
C. L. P. Hogan,

Rufus Brown.
Ashbel Steele,
Joseph Vial.
Lake Pre.
S. W. Sherman,
John Miller
J. Adams.
Gross Point Pre.
E. H. Mulford,
Joel Stebbins.
Salt Creek.
F. T. Minor, M. D.
E. Moore.
Chicago.
John S. Wright,
W. B. Ogden,
Arch'd Clybourne.
Athens.

Barrington.

DU PAGE.

Lewie Ellsworth, Commissioner.

Naperville.
Stephen L. Scott,
Isaac Clark,
L. Ellsworth.
Cass Pre.
William Andros,
Hart L. Cobb.
Washington Pre.
S. D Pearce,
Capt. E. Kinney,
Ariel Bowman.
Du Page Pre.
Hiram Fowler,
Warren Smith.

Big Woods Pre.
Ashbel Culver,
William J. Strong.
Deerfield Pre.
N. B. Morton,
L. Q. Newton.
Webster Pre.
Walter Blanchard,
John W. Walker.
Orange Pre.
William J. Kimbal,
Luther J. Sanderson.
York Pre.
John Talmadge,
Benjamin Fuller.

WILL COUNTY.

C. C. Vanhorn, Holder Sisson, } Commissioners.

Hickory Creek, Pre.
C. C. Vanhorn,
Chester Marshall.
Spring Creek Pre.
Reuben Beach,
Charles Gooding,
John Blackstone.
Thorn Creek Pre.
William Wood.

Channahon.
Isaiah Treat, M. D.
William B. Peck.
Plainfield.
Deac. Ezra Goodhue,
John D. Caton.
Du Page.
Col. William Smith,
Lockport.

Lorain.
Enoch Sargent.
Wilmington.
Jonathan Barnett.

Col. Wm. Gooding,
Holder Sisson.
Joliet.
A. W. Bowen, M.D.
Bourbonnais Grove.
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B. H. Moores, Levi Hills, } Commissioners.

Vermillion.
Isaac Dimick,
William Seeley,
L. Dimick.
Utica.
Artbur McGill,
James Clark.
Peru.
Thomas Burnham,
D. J. Townsend.
Marseilles.
A. D. Butterfield,
Chris. Long.
Ottawa.
Alson Woodruff,
H. W. Gridley,
Benjamin Douglas,

Henry Green.
Dayton.
George W. Howe,
John Green.
Troy Grove.
J. D. Wixeman,
William Shed.
Indian Creek.
Charles H. Sutfin,
Daniel Blake.
Eagle Pre.
David Reeder,
Reuben Hackett.
Brookfield Pre.
Asa Lewis,
John Palmer.

USEFUL RECIPES.

Method of cleaning Silks, Woollens, &c.—Grate raw potatoes to a fine pulp in clean water, and pass the liquid matter through a coarse sieve into another vessel of water; let the mixture stand still till the white particles of the potatoes are precipitated; then pour the mucilaginous liquor from the feculæ, and preserve the liquor for use. The article to be cleansed should then be laid upon a linen cloth on a table, and having provided a clean sponge, dip it into the potato liquor and apply it to the article to be cleaned, till the dirt is perfectly separated; then wash it in clean water several times. Two middle sized potatoes will be sufficient for a pint of water.—*N. E. Farmer.*

Cement for China, &c.—The Journal des Connaissances Usuelles publishes the following recipe as one of the best cements for china, glass, &c. Put an ounce of mastic in a sufficient quantity of spirits of wine to dissolve it; then take an ounce of isinglass, soak it in water until it is soft, and dissolve it in brandy till it is become a strong jelly, adding afterwards an ounce of well powdered gum ammoniac. Put the two mixtures together in an earthen pipkin, and expose them to a gentle heat; when they are well mixed, pour them in to a bottle, which is to be well corked. To use this cement, the bottle is to be placed in hot water until it is sufficiently fluid—it is then to be applied to the fractures in the usual way. In 12 hours it will set, and the mended part will become as hard as any other.

To prepare Water-proof Boots.—The following recipe, inserted in a previous No., we have used with the addition of as much again Indian rubber. Perhaps more could be added with advantage. The amber varnish has been left out, because we had not it convenient.

It can be applied with equal advantage to the soles, as to the uppers, and will greatly increase the durability.

Be careful not to burn the leather.

Some object to the use of Indian rubber on boots and shoes, because it tends to increase the heat and prespiration of the feet. To such we say, wash your feet and change your stockings oftener. You must, at certain seasons of the year, either have water-proof boots or wet feet; and for ourself, we greatly prefer the former, and this preparation will effect it:

"Boots and shoes may be rendered impervious to water by the following composition: —Take 3 oz. spermaceti, and melt it in a pipkin, or other earthen vessel, over a slow fire; add thereto six drachms of Indian rubber, cut into slices, and these will presently dissolve. Then add of tallow, 8 oz.; hog's lard, 2 oz.; amber varnish, 4 oz. Mix, and it will be fit for use immediately."

Sore Throat.—If the throat be not very sore, a decoction of red pepper will cure it. To make it more palatable, sugar may be added, which will be no injury. If that should not produce relief, put a flannel around the neck, and keep it wet in front with volatile liniment. Let not a little smartness, which will be produced after a few applications, prevent a free use of it. A gargle of borax, dissolved in warm water, to which honey is to be added after the borax is dissolved, is an excellent remedy. Though we have been much troubled with sore throat during the two or three past winters, we have always found relief in the most desperate cases, by the constant use of the last two together.

To Horsemen.—The N. Y. Standard mentions seeing a horse that refused to draw, start off without difficulty, by tying a string tightly round his ear close to his head. We have

often seen the experiment tried, and it has invariably succeeded.

YOUNG MEN'S DEPARTMENT.

YOUNG MEN'S READING.—Most young men will occasionally have a spare hour which should be devoted to the improvement of the mind. Were the winter evenings improved as they should be, even if it were impossible to employ any other portion of their time in reading, the knowledge they would in that time acquire, would be of incalculable benefit. But *all reading* is not profitable—is not *learning*. The low rates at which numerous literary? periodical publications are furnished, induce many persons fond of reading to subscribe for one or more of them; and their time for reading being limited, little or nothing else is examined. It seems to us a great evil, that this kind of publications should have been so increased the last few years. Occasionally something may appear in them of real value; but they are chiefly filled with paltry trash, that instead of being of benefit to the reader, is an absolute injury. It is an injury, for a continued indulgence in this style of reading, will very shortly disqual fy the mind for the enjoyment of scientific and useful studies. But the reading of histories, ancient and modern; such works as Good's Book of Nature, Dick's Christian Philosopher, Paley's Natural Theology, in which the curiosities of nature are unfolded as the eye, the bee, the various adaptations of animals, birds, &c, to their different modes of living—would not only be storing the mind with useful information, but would increase the desire for more. To these we would add the study of some work upon the U. S. Constitution, (how little is it understood,) like Bayard's Exposition, and some works upon Political and Moral Science, like Wayland's.

It would be well if every farmer were possessed of these works, that they might be continually before his family; for many an hour would be passed in their reading, that would be passed in idleness or something worse, if they were not at hand. But some know not how to spare the money for their purchase, and doubtless there is many a son who would read them if they could be procured. We have them with others of a like character, and will most cheerfully lend them to such of our country neighbors as will *be careful to return them*.

A good family newspaper is a valuable—almost indispensable thing. It is indeed quite indispensable with that man who would keep himself and family informed of the nation's and the world's progress in improvement; and many a copy of these almost useless publications is taken with this view, without the subscriber's being aware of the deleterious influence it may exert on the reader. Some of them contain as well arranged articles upon the times, improvements, legislative and Congressional proceedings, &c., as can be found in other newspapers, and did they stop here, there would be no cause for complaint. But a very small space of the paper suffices for this, and the balance is chiefly filled with romances and wishy-washy trash, of which the more a man reads, the worse he is off.

Let no *farmer's* son, at any rate, employ his precious time in this useless manner. A farmer cannot learn too much, even for the improvement of his farming. The whole field of nature lies before him, the exploration of almost any parts of which he may turn to valuable account. Chemistry, geology and mineralogy, which are considered generally studies for those devoted only to scientific pursuits, will instruct him as to the qualities of his soil, and enable him to supply those ingredients which may be lacking, and are necessary to an abundant yield of a particular kind of grain. The study of many others of the natural sciences will be equally profitable.

If a farmer's son of the West, acquires knowledge to any extent, every leisure moment must be improved; for the scarcity of labor compels the farmer to do most of his work with only the assistance of his family. With him there is no time to be wasted, and no portion of it should be misused in reading worthless trash.

Besides the benefit immediately derived from the acquiring of knowledge, is that of the formation of correct habits. A Western farmer's life is not long to be what it now is—one of drudgery and toil, but one of comparative ease, affording more leisure than almost any other employment. This will be the natural result of the easy tillage and abundant crops incident to prairie cultivation. And how will this vacant time be employed? will it prove a benefit or of irreparable injury? Most as surely the latter, unless those who will shortly be in active life, acquire in youth a love of knowledge. A taste for literary and scientific pursuits, is a pretty certain safe-guard from vice and dissipation; and unless possessed of it, a young man is about as sure to travel the downward road of folly, "the end whereof is death," as he has leisure; and his progress will be in proportion as he lacks regular employment. Youth is the best—the only period *for acquiring habits of this kind*; how important then—doubly important is it, that the youth of the West improve to the best advantage every moment of their time.

We insert the following in the young men's department, for it is that branch of farming which usually falls to their lot.

BREAKING STEERS.—Several modes of breaking steers have been stated in your valuable paper—some of which I should not wholly approve; but, with your permission, I will give one of my ideas on the subject.

When these useful animals are old enough for the yoke, place them in a stable, side by side, with hay before them, and confine them with ropes. In this position they can be handled at pleasure. Then place a yoke upon them, and directly in their rear fasten a strong hook or staple; to this attach a chain and fasten to the yoke with sufficient length, so that by pulling, they can barely reach their food —In the position they will soon learn to pull, and become familiar with the yoke. When taken from the stable, put them before a sled, and you will find them ready to draw any reasonable load you may put behind them. You have nothing to do but to guide them in the ordinary way of breaking steers.—*Genesee Farmer*.

There is common sense in such treatment in *training* animals—we dislike the word "*breaking*." It is no more "breaking" an animal; or at least ought not to be, to learn him to work, than to learn your little child to do a new and difficult thing. The term "breaking" is as proper in the one case as the other. It is true there is now and then an unruly, wilful animal that must be controlled, and compelled by physical force, to do that which he can and knows how to do; but such cases do not occur oftener among brutes than men. Very often, without doubt, where an animal is most shamefully abused because he will not do what is required of him, if he were learnt in a gentle manner what was to be done, and made to feel, that though in a new situation, he was not to be hurt; much time, labor and disagreeable feeling would be saved on the part of the man, to say nothing of the brute. Training animals after that fashion, would be one of the pleasantest recreations of a farmer's life. Let every one remember the excellent maxim,—"Treat your brutes like men."

GAMBLING.—Let every young man avoid all sorts of gambling as he would poison. A poor man or a boy should never allow himself to toss up for a half penny, for this is often the beginning of a habit of gambling, and the ruinous crime often creeps on by slow degrees. Whilst a man is minding his work, he is playing the best game, and is sure to win. A gambler never makes any good use of his money, even if he should win, he openly gambles the more, and he is often reduced to beggary and despair. He is often tempted to commit crimes for which his life is forfeited to his country, or perhaps he puts an end himself to his miserable existence. If he wins, he injures his companion or friend. And how can any honest man enjoy money gained in such a way?—*Anon.*

It is said that if a chimney when built is plastered with mortar well mixed with salt, it will never need to be swept, as in damp weather the salt will melt and the soot fall down.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We regret having kept Dr. Thomas' letter so long without publication. If he will continue his favors, neither he nor our readers shall have cause of complaint for the like again.—"Experience" of that kind is the best kind, and what we wish to publish.

We were obliged to Mr. Churchill for the permission given in the accompanying note, to annex his name instead of initial to his communication, if we thought best. This we greatly prefer to do; and unless communications contain a positive request to the contrary, we certainly shall give the full name if it can be ascertained. Mr. C. has so clearly described his mode of making a hedge, that we consider illustrations unnecessary; but if it is requested, and he will send us the drawings, we will incur the expense of getting it engraved. Such communications, so perfectly adapted to the wants and means of the West, cannot come too often, and we most heartily accept the offer contained in his first sentence.

Mr. Gifford's article on the sugar beet, should have been headed "No. 1," for we expect to receive another letter from him in season for the March No. Dr. Bowen told us he should depend on Mr. G. to attend to this subject, but we hope he will think again about it, and send us some communications also.

The example of Rev. J. M. Peck is worthy of imitation by other ministers. They should remember that sending us communications, which oftentimes would be to them a recreation, would be of perhaps lasting benefit to hundreds of our readers. Mr. Peck's experience and observation furnish him a lasting source from which to draw valuable facts and information, and we hope he will allow us to publish something from his pen in every number.

"Filius Coloni" we shall be pleased to hear from again, and if he can induce some of the "*Coloni*" themselves to send us their experience, he will render us an essential service.

An excellent letter from J. S. Norton, Esq., of Rockford, upon the Irish Grazier breed of hogs; and also extracts from Mr. Solon Robinson's letter, we feel constrained to defer till the next No.

A letter from C., and another from Mr. A. Churchill will also be given in our next.

CAUTION TO PARENTS.—Never open letters addressed to your children, unless you have reason to suspect that they contain something improper. This practice is not only hurtful to that proper pride which should always be encouraged in young people, but it teaches them dishonorable habits; for how can children respect the sacredness due to a sealed letter, when they see it violated by their own parents?—*Macnish.*

CHICAGO PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED FRIDAY, FEB. 12, 1841.

BREAD STUFFS—		$ cts.		$ cts.
Flour, Superfine,	per bbl.	3 25	*a*	3 50
Corn Meal,	" bu.	28	*a*	31
GRAIN—				
Wheat, Winter,	" bu.	48	*a*	52
do. Spring,	" bu.	37	*a*	43
Corn,	" bu.	28	*a*	31
Oats,	" bu.	20	*a*	—
Barley,	" bu.	37	*a*	—
Beans,	" bu.	37	*a*	50
SALT—				
Fine,	" bbl.	3 25	*a*	—
HIDES—				
Green,	" lb.	3	*a*	3½
Dried,	" lb.	8	*a*	9
GROCERIES—				
Molasses,	" gal.	65	*a*	75
Sugar, St. Croix,	" cwt.	11 50	*a*	12 00
do. N. O.	" do.	10 00	*a*	11 00
do. Maple,	" do.	6 00	*a*	8 00
Tea, Imperial,	" lb.	1 00	*a*	1 13
do. Y. Hyson,	" lb.	65	*a*	87
White Fish,	" bbl.	7 00	*a*	—
LUMBER—				
Clear,	" M.	16 00	*a*	20 00
Merchantable,	" do.	9 00	*a*	12 00
Flooring,	" do.	12 00	*a*	14 00
Siding,	" do.	10 00	*a*	14 00
Refuse,	" do.	7 00	*a*	8 00
Shingles,	" do.	2 00	*a*	3 00
Lath, Board,	" do.	8 00	*a*	10 00
PROVISIONS—				
Pork,	" cwt.	2 50	*a*	3 25
do. Mess,	" bbl.	10 00	*a*	12 00
do. Prime,	" do.	8 00	*a*	10 00
Beef, on foot,	" cwt.	3 00	*a*	3 50
do. packed,	" bbl.	7 00	*a*	10 00
Hams, smoked,	" cwt.	6 00	*a*	8 00
Lard,	" do.	6 00	*a*	7 00
Butter,	" lb.	12	*a*	15
Eggs,	" doz.	15	*a*	18
Chickens,	"	12	*a*	18
Turkeys,	"	37	*a*	50
VEGETABLES—				
Potatoes,	" bu.	25	*a*	28
Turnips,	" bu.	25	*a*	31
Onions,	" bu.	31	*a*	37
Parsnips,	" bu.	37	*a*	—

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PROSPECTUS.

THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY commences a new series of its paper with greatly increased confidence in its success. The interest manifested by Western farmers in its prosperity and usefulness, by subscriptions and contributions to its columns, is convincing proof that they are determined to sustain it.

The name of "Western Prairie Farmer," has been added to that of Union Agriculturist, as more indicative of its character; and no endeavors will be spared on the part of the Society and individual members, to make it all its new title would indicate. The paper commenced at Springfield under that name, has been discontinued; and we hope at least to make this supply its place.

The Illinois State Agricultural Society having been recently organized, and this paper adopted as its organ, its proceedings, together with the prize essays, reports, and other agricultural information procured by it, will be first published in this paper, and the proceedings of the Auxiliary Societies. Valuable agricultural information will also be obtained by the U. A. S., by requiring reports from its members upon particular subjects; and as each member will feel it is *his* paper, and be particular to communicate facts, opinions, the results of his own experiments and observation, and any matter suitable for such a paper, we hope in a very short time to fill its columns principally with original matter, prepared expressly with a view to benefit WESTERN FARMERS. We now exchange with most of the agricultural papers and periodicals of the South and East, and we expect to receive them all; so that the space not occupied with original matter, will be filled with extracts from other publications, best suited to the West.

That such a paper is needed among us—that the Eastern and Southern publications, however valuable, cannot supply its place, no one will deny; and the Society feels warranted in the supposition that such a paper will be sustained by those for whose benefit it is published, both in contributions to its columns and in subscriptions.

The Union Agriculturist claims the support of the Western agricultural community beyond any other that has been or probably will be commenced, because it is not published with a view to profit or individual advantage, but purely to benefit Western farmers—to furnish them the greatest amount of agricultural information, at the lowest rate. When it becomes profitable as now published, the Society will probably either enlarge and improve it, or reduce the price.

Engravings, and pictorial embellishments can be procured in this city, and will be freely used. The type is mostly new, and on the opening of navigation a superior quality of paper will be procured, so that its typographical execution may be inferior to none.

As an inducement to farmers and others to contribute articles for publication, we will state that our edition is 2500 copies, with occasionally an extra number for gratuitous distribution, to acquaint individuals with the paper; so that the labor of writing will not be thrown away, but will be of benefit throughout the West.

Chicago, 20th Jan., 1841.



BACHELDER'S PATENT PLANTING MACHINE.

THE Subscriber having been appointed Agent by the Proprietors of the above named Patent, for manufacturing and selling said Machines at Alton; and also for disposing of the right to manufacture and sell the same in the several counties of Illinois, would respectfully call the attention of Farmers and mechanics generally to this valuable invention.

This machine is constructed on principles altogether different from all others for similar purposes. It performs the operation of planting without opening a furrow, thereby dispensing with coverers, that are continually liable to clog, and get out of order. It simply raises the soil a little, and at the same time drops the seed at any distance desired, when the soil falls back to its original place, and is immediately followed by a moveable guage, that leaves the soil to any depth over the seed that the operator chooses; it also removes all small stones and sods from the place where the seed is deposited.

☞ Orders for the Planter, or application for rights to manufacture and sell them in counties in this State, addressed to the undersigned, will meet with prompt attention. JOHN ATWOOD.

HOLCOMB & CO. PRINTERS.

The Union Agriculturist AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

VOL. I, CHICAGO, MARCH, 1841. NO. 3

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, EDITED BY THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, THE ORGAN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TERMS.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance.* Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their paper at one office, shall receive SIX copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid.* Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1,50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance.* Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AT CHICAGO, ILL.

THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will establish a warehouse at Chicago, on the opening of navigation, at which all kinds of seeds—grain, roots, &c., will be received for sale on commission. Also fruit trees and shrubbery, agricultural implements, common or patented; and agencies for the sale of patent-rights, will also be attended to.

The U. A. S. embraces eight counties, containing 5850 square miles, and publishes a paper, *The Union Agriculturist*, which is obtaining a general circulation throughout the West. It is incorporated, with a capital stock of $10,000. The paper furnishes a valuable medium for advertisements of an agricultural character.

Chicago being the principal market town for a great extent of country, besides the district embraced in the Society, furnishes one of the best locations for such an establishment, that can be found in the West; and the wants of the West demanding it, it will be well sustained. Besides the retail trade, the wholesale will rapidly increase.

The rates of commission will be reasonable, and will be fixed at the first meeting of the Society.

Communications, *post paid,* (none other will receive attention,) may be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary U. A. S., Chicago, Ills.

☞ Eastern papers please notice or copy.

THE COMMITTEE ON FAIRS, this year consists of BENJAMIN DOUGLASS of La Salle, RUSSELL WHEELER of Du Page, ALLEN P. HUBBARD of Kane, JOHN BLACKSTONE of Will, PETER W. DEITZ of Mc Henry.

It is time they were heard from, and measures in progress to get up a fair worthy of our Society. A good fair will do much towards building it up; and as we *know* most of the members of the Committee to be well qualified for the duties required of them, and believe the others to be of the same stamp, we think the friends of the Society will not be disappointed in expecting great benefits from their labors. It was keen a the first fair would require much care and labor, and for that reason the duties were imposed on these men.

Article X. Sec. 2 of the by-laws, proscribes their duties as follows. The annual meeting is held on the third Wednesday in October, to continue during the pleasure of the members present.

"They or a majority of them shall direct in all matters connected with agricultural fair shows, and together with the President, designate the place where held, the time being at the annual meeting. They shall determine for what objects premiums shall be offered, and what the premiums shall be, and direct the Recording Secretary in publishing the same. They shall decide as to the claims of competitors for premiums, giving their decisions and the reasons therefor in writing to the Recording Secretary."

"AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE."—The lateness at which Mr. Robinson's letter was received, precludes more than a passing notice at this time. Previous to its receipt, the Feb No. of the Albany Cultivator had come to hand, and his letter, with the reply of the editors, been perused.

The letter was first read, and it was with a feeling of disappointment we found on another page they refused to assume the responsibility urged upon them by Mr. R., to appoint a committee of twenty of the most zealous friends of agriculture in the vicinity of Albany, which should meet at the office of the Cultivator, on the 22d February last, for the purpose of appointing officers *pro tem,* and designating a time and place for the first meeting, when a Constitution would be adopted and officers elected. It seems the easiest and best method of commencing the enterprise. We have not time or room to say more, than that such an organization is much needed in the country, and that if once in operation we cannot believe it would be suffered to go to ruin. Mr. R would without doubt prove a most efficient advocate for the cause, should he commence his proposed tour.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES INEFFICIENT—It is stated in the Albany Cultivator, as an objection to the present organization of a National Society, that with the exception of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, where State Societies are supported by the State, not another State Society in the Union is in active, vigorous, effective existence, although many have been organized, and are perhaps legally existing.

If this is indeed the case, it is time—high time, a reformation should be produced. New York and Kentucky, at least, we supposed to be exceptions; and in the organization of the Illinois State Society, we supposed ourselves far in the rear of many other States.

It should be a question of serious inquiry, why this should be; and if increased vigor and efficiency can be given them, apply the necessary means. May it not in a great degree—not rely, be attributable to the want of interest in the cause, among the farmers generally, throughout the State in which the society exists? Is it not so far off, that they feel they have little or nothing to do with it? If so, it appears to us the organization of an auxiliary society in each county, would bring the parent society home to them, and bring them acquainted with its benefits. They would prove the veins of the system, to carry health and vigor throughout the frame—to disseminate the agricultural information acquired by means of essays, reports, addresses, &c.; and operate as arteries to carry to the heart statistical information, that will be necessary to the understanding of the wants of the agricultural community.

SUCKERS, what will *you* do with your STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. Shall it be left to die a natural death; or will you in each county within the year, have an auxiliary society in full operation? The local business being transacted by counties, brings together at courts, and on other occasions, the inhabitants from all parts of a county, and affords an excellent opportunity to commence operations. All that is necessary is for some individuals to take the lead, and other friends of agricultural improvement will be glad to follow. There is no occasion for delay—"delays are dangerous."—The spring is the most favorable season to call a meeting, for more farmers will be at leisure to attend; and reader, if you feel any interest in the cause—if you are disposed to lend your aid for its promotion, consult a few of your neighbors, and give notice, that at such a time and place the friends of agriculture will convene to organize a county society. To those counties that now enjoy the benefits of well organized societies, these remarks will not apply. All that is wanted of them is, that they should become auxiliary, with perhaps some increase in their efforts.

THE NEWSPAPERS should exert more ardently in this cause. If each paper in Illinois were to engage in this, as they have the past season in politics, how much good they might do. They possess the power; shall it not be exercised.

PAGE'S DITCHING AND BANKING MACHINE.—Mr. S. C. Clarke of this city, has handed us a drawing and description of this machine, with a note appended from Mr. R. Edwards of Baltimore, Md., stating the cost of them to be there $600. It seems to be a great price, but may be worth it. Some such machine must be brought into use on our prairies, and before many years there will be one invented, if there is none suitable now.

MR. M. L. KNAPP'S DITCHING MACHINE.—We are sorry to see Mr. Knapp's petition to our Legislature for aid in perfecting and testing his machine, (which was spoken of in our last No.) has met with so little favor. Some might call it folly to appropriate money to an object that might upon trial prove worthless; but it is in testing a machine, if ever, a man requires aid. If it proves valuable, no thanks are due any individual or body for efforts made to bring it into notice or use. It then becomes their interest to purchase or recommend it. In such a course is nothing praiseworthy; the purest selfishness would dictate it.

One great end of Government, especially in a Republic, should be to encourage enterprize. And how can it be better done than in judicious appropriations to aid objects like the one before us. What improvement is more desirable to prairie farmers than such an one as this? Who constitute the majority of the people of this State? Surely if these questions had been more thought of, a different course would have been adopted.

Farmers, your interests do not receive the attention in our legislative halls their paramount importance demand; and if you would have reformation it can be easily effected by organization. Farmers singly may be able to accomplish but little; but let a Society be organized in each county, auxiliary to the State Society, and if then the farming interests do not receive more attention, it will be indeed wonderful. Combined effort is of as great importance in this, as in the accomplishment of any other object, and will prove as effective. Let your Societies be organized at once.

TEMPERANCE.—One of our good friends appends the following P. S. to a letter received from him. "Our temperance ladies are much opposed to the use of *alcohol* in their cakes or puddings; and are decidedly opposed to any increase of the luxuries of the table." Several recipes, directing the use of wine or brandy, have been rejected, because we know many were opposed to the use of alcohol even in cookery; and we have trespassed but in one instance. Being tee-total ourself, we would say or do nothing opposed to total abstinence: but as by baking, the alcohol is evaporated, we can see no objection to its use to give a flavor, more than to any other spice. Its use in sauces, or any other preparation where heat is not applied, is in our judgment a very different thing.

We supposed farmers to be as fond of good things as any other class; and if any one more than another is entitled to their use, it is the farmer. Extravagant recipes, we do not intend to furnish; but we wish to give such as house-wives generally may like to use, and will be greatly obliged to them to aid us by sending those they have tested, and know to be valuable.

EDITOR'S CREDITING.—would it not be well for the agricultural press to adopt a more definite system of crediting? Oftentimes in our exchanges, we see articles credited to an "Agriculturist" or "Cultivator," which amounts to just no credit at all. The locality should be given. Besides greatly assisting each other in making selections, our readers would then be prepared to judge as to the adaptation of an article to their circumstances.

Instead of crediting to the Union Agriculturist, we will request our brethren of the press, if they find articles worth transferring to their columns from this paper to give credit to the "CHICAGO AGRICULTURIST;" and we will be equally careful to give the locality in our extracts from exchanges.

A SEED STORE & AGRICULTURAL DEPOSITORY.—Such an establishment is much needed here. There should be some place where the farmer or gardener could go and get any seeds, tools, etc., he might need. And there should be a place where a farmer having seeds to sell—a valuable or superior kind of grain or root for seed, could leave it to be sold on commission. Then he would get the worth of it, and no time be lost in trying to sell it; whereas now, unless there is a great demand for what he may wish to dispose of, he must hawk it about—perhaps spend a half or whole day in endeavoring to get its worth, and then sell at half-price.

Business is becoming divided up, as it should be; and were such a depository commenced and patronized as might reasonably be expected, it would soon cease to be an object for other stores to attempt the sale of articles properly belonging to this department.

Eastern manufacturers would find it to their interest to send their agricultural tools and implements to be sold on commission, and in that way the farmers would be supplied at the lowest rates possible. Shrubbery, green-house plants, etc., could here be sold; and till Western nurseries are in operation, Eastern could give agencies, and send out such trees, etc., as might be ordered at the Depository.

There is to be such an Establishment commenced in the spring, either by the U. A. S., or under its direction; and those who might derive benefit from it either at the East or West, may make their calculations upon it with certainty.

ENGRAVINGS.—We have on hand engravings of the Durham, Devonshire and Yorkshire breeds of cattle, which will be inserted as soon as room can be spared for them. For the present it is better to have our columns filled with matter suited to the season. For this reason seven cuts, showing how to judge of the age of the horse by his teeth, which have been on hand six weeks, have not been inserted.

We shall, however, crowd into the next No. an engraving from an original drawing by Daniel Eistun, Esq. of this city, of his New Leicester or Bakewell (Disbley) sheep, which is accompanied with a description of the breed. Original articles of this kind will always be acceptable to our readers.

In the next we expect also to give a plan of a farm house, which will be adapted to prairie farmers.

"H. C." What an enviable notoriety have these initials acquired? Who that reads the agricultural publications of the day, needs to be told that they signify the name of the Commissioner of Agricultural Survey for Massachusetts—HENRY COLMAN.

Is there not in Illinois, and the other Western States and Territories, many a young man, who by diligent application to his work and his studies, is qualifying himself to fill a like exalted station? Industry and perseverance will accomplish what in the commencement would seem almost impossible. Press on then—improve every moment, and be careful when you read, that you read to profit—that you acquire useful knowledge.

CHINESE TEAR CORN.—So far as we can ascertain, this new corn is considered by Western farmers a great acquisition. It ripens without difficulty, even considerably to the North of this place; and its great productiveness, and large amount of foliage, make it very valuable for raising for stock. We shall expect to see the *genuine* very generally approved.

These new kinds of grain or roots should not be condemned because of a failure in the first experiment with them. It might require a trial of two or three successive seasons to be able to judge correctly as to the value of a new species. Neither will success one season, ensure success subsequently. A season, differing from the ordinary ones, might render an experimenting crop superior to what could afterwards be obtained, with the greatest skill. Therefore be not too soon discouraged, or too easily elated in your farming experiments.

BALTIMORE, MD.—More subscribers from that city will not be unacceptable.

Asparagus plants may be raised by sowing the seeds in the fall as soon as ripe, or in March, and the early part of April. It requires some of the best ground in the garden. The seed may be sown in drills, ten or twelve inches asunder, and covered half an inch with light earth. When the plants are up, they will need a careful hoeing, and if cultivated, and kept free from weeds, they will be large enough to transplant when they are a year old.

A plantation of Asparagus, if the beds are properly dressed every year, will continue to produce good buds for twenty years or more.

New plantations of Asparagus may be made in the months of March and April. The ground for the bed must not be wet, not too strong or stubborn, but such as is moderately light and pliable, so as it will readily fall to pieces in digging or raking, and in a situation that enjoys the full sun. It should have a large supply of good rotten dung, three or four inches thick, and then he regularly trenched two spades deep, and the dung buried equally in each trench twelve or fifteen inches below the surface. When this trenching is done, lay on two or three inches of well rotted manure all over the surface, and dig the ground over again eight or ten inches deep, mixing this top dressing, and incorporating it well with the earth. The ground being thus prepared and laid level, divide it into beds, allowing five feet for every four rows of plants, with alleys two feet and a half wide between each bed.

Strain your line along the bed six inches from the edge; then, with a spade, cut out a small trench or drill close to the line, about six inches deep, making that side next the line nearly upright, and when one trench is opened, plant that before you open another, placing the plants upright ten or twelve inches distance in the row, and let every row be twelve inches apart.

The plants must not be placed flat in the bottom of the trench, but nearly upright against the back of it, and so that the crown of the plants may also stand upright, and two or three inches below the surface of the ground, spreading their roots somewhat regularly against the back of the trench, and at the same time drawing a little earth up against them with the hand as you place them, just to fix the plants in their due position until the row is planted; when one row is thus placed, with a rake or hoe draw the earth into the trench over the plants, and then proceed to open another drill or trench, as before directed; and fill and cover it in the same manner, and so on till the whole is planted; then let the surface of the beds be raked smooth and clear from stones.

Some gardeners, with a view to have extra large heads, place their plants sixteen inches apart in the rows, instead of twelve, and by planting them in the *quincunx* manner, that is, by commencing the second row eight inches from the end of the first; and the fourth even with the second, the plants will form rhomboidal squares, instead of rectangular ones, and every plant will thus have room to expand its roots and leaves luxuriantly.

Spring Dressing of the Beds.—This work should be done from about the latter end of March, to the middle of April, just before the buds begin to rise. After clearing away all the long litter, or whatever may incumber the ground, spread the short dung over the whole surface, and dig it in; if the alleys be dug at the same time, it will be very beneficial to the plants. Care must be taken at this season not to wound the crowns with the tines of the fork, but forking the beds should not be neglected; as the admitting of air and rain into the ground, induces the plants to throw up buds of superior size; to promote such a desirable object, the ground should be kept clear of weeds at all seasons, as these greatly impoverish, and frequently smother the plants.

Asparagus is considered a wholesome vegetable, and should not be kept long after it is gathered; after being well washed, it may be tied in bundles of about a dozen buds each, and boiled in water, seasoned with salt, until tender, which will be in about twenty minutes; take it up before it loses its true color and flavour, and serve up on toasted bread, with melted butter, &c.—*Bridgeman.*

Culture of the Peach Tree.—It has been mentioned by writers on the culture of the peach tree, that hot water poured round the trunk at the surface of the ground, will destroy the worm. We have not yet tried it, but we intend to do so; and in the mean time we would suggest to our readers, that it may be done at any time during the winter or spring when there is no snow and the soil is unfrozen. We think the work would be more thoroughly done, however, if the gum be first removed, so that the hot water may enter the habitation of this insect.

Soot has been found excellent for this tree. In one case that has come to our knowledge, its pale leaves were changed into a dark green by this application round its roots; and though the effect may in part have been caused by the destruction of the worm, it has doubtless, acted also as a manure. Those who have stove pipes to clean and peach trees to cultivate, should save the soot for this purpose.

One of the most deplorable conditions that a peach tree can be placed in, is to stand in a meadow or grass ground which is annually mowed. Sometimes we see them in door-yards where the grass grows strong, but where neither pigs, nor sheep, nor cattle, are allowed to enter. A half starved tree, however, is no ornament in front of a house; but we will not find fault without proposing a remedy. Cultivate a circle round each tree, of two or three feet in diameter; and hoe in manure from the stable, the hog pen, the hen roost, the leach tub, or the wood pile, not forgetting the stove pipe, and the tree will soon compensate for the labor by its beauty and productiveness.—*New Gen. Farm.*

Means of Agricultural Information.—Two of the most efficient means by which agricultural information is disseminated are Agricultural Associations and Papers. We may almost say they are essential to the widest diffusion of this important branch of knowledge. Agricultural papers invariably draw in their train an union of effort to the attainment of their object, the promotion of agriculture and the improvement of its votaries, and as such agents, are worthy the encouragement of every farmer who properly regards individual success and the improvement of his profession. Point us to a region where an agricultural society is sustained with energy and honest zeal and where a good agricultural paper is generally circulated, and, we will shew you a country exhibiting plain proof of *progressing improvement*, and an intelligent thriving and other things being equal, a happy people. Or point to such a land and to such a people and we will bring you witnesses to prove that if societies and papers have not been the moving cause of their prosperity they have at least promoted it. —*Ken. Farmer.*

Origin of Grafting.—The art of grafting, as well as that of pruning, has been ascribed to accidental origin. The more vigorous shooting of a vine after a goat had browsed upon it is said to have suggested the one great principle in the management of fruit trees; and it is probable that the occasional natural union of the boughs of distinct trees may have shown the general practicably of the other. It is remarkable that Moses, in his directions to the Israelites, when they "shall come into the land, and shall have planted all manner of trees for food," makes no mention of the art of grafting. Hesiod and Homer, in like manner, have no allusion to a practice which would naturally have formed part of their subject had it existed when they wrote. Pliny mentions apple trees "that will honor the first grafters for ever," and this enthusiastic sort of praise, at any rate, belongs to the infancy of an art, when mankind are first conscious of its blessings, and therefore not disposed to undervalue them through familiarity.—*Library of Entertaining Knowledge.*

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Union Agriculturist.

Lake C. H., Ia., February 10, 1841.

Dear Sir,—The enclosed letter from the Hon. Saml. C. Sample, present Judge of the Courts in the N. W. part of Indiana, and who by-the-by is a man who does great honor to his station, I send you for the purpose of showing you how the cause in which you are engaged meets with high favor in high places.

It is a most singular fact, that many other men besides Judge Sample imagine that they have no ability to write for a public journal, when in truth many of their effusions would do themselves credit, and be highly useful to their readers. And although I am aware that the writer never expected to see it published, yet if you are disposed to insert it, I will presume upon a long tried friendship with the writer, to authorize you to do it. I regret that my other engagements have prevented me from offering anything of my own worthy of your attention. But you have every reason to persevere, for you have the proud satisfaction of seeing your labors so highly appreciated in all quarters.

You will please let me know as soon as possible, the time fixed for the meeting of your Society. With affectionate regard,

Solon Robinson.

South Bend, February 3.

Dear Sir,—I received yesterday a number of the agricultural paper published at Chicago, and perceive by a note from the editor enclosed, that you have recommended your humble servant as an agent for the work. Nothing could afford me more pleasure than to promote the cause of agriculture, and I will advance the claims of this paper as far as I am able.

I am very well pleased with the design of the "Union Agriculturist," its arrangement, &c., and believe it will prove a great auxiliary to Western agriculture. The proprietor solicits something from my pen; but I am too little of a practical operative in the way of farming to have anything to write about. I regard a history of careful experiments to be the best of all articles for such periodicals—facts which are proven—and if fewer abstract theories were published in them, they would not only have better circulation, but be more useful.

I learned by Judge Clark that you lost a letter of Berkshire. It was a great misfortune truly for the country, as well as yourself. I am highly pleased to find the spirit of improvement in pigs abroad in the land. It is the *first* stock we should attempt the improvement of. Then will follow cows, and after them horses; but the two latter must have good enclosed pastures and warm shelters in the winter.

I regard a cross from our best domestic stock of hogs, having sufficient length and frame and clearness of bristles with the Berkshire, as the most profitable stock for the knife we can have. The former gives size and the latter lays on fat. There is now in this place a remarkably fine young boar, bred by Mr. Pomeroy, near Mishawaka, half Berkshire and half Leicestershire. They make an admirable cross; the latter has fine length and largeness of frame. But I must stop my cogitations on pork; with this farther remark, however, that the pork brought to market here and at Laporte, would vie with that of the Cincinnati market.

Yours, &c., S. C. Sample.

S. Robinson, Esq.

Note.—Mr. Robinson will please accept our hearty thanks for the above. We hope Judge S. will apply the lash lightly to Mr. R. for doing us this kindness; and if too severe, Mr. R. may charge about seven eighths of it to our account, to be "laid on" the first time we meet. Should it be the means of inducing Judge S. to send us favors without the intervention of a friend, we should be willing to take the whole.

The compliment to the efforts of the Society to publish a valuable agricultural paper, is duly appreciated. It *might* have been sincere had it been sent directly to us; but coming in the manner it has, we are assured of its sincerity, and it is accordingly most gratifying and encouraging.

In Illinois there has been some crossing of the Berkshire and the Leicestershire, and so far as we know, with great satisfaction. We have heard the same reason given for the cross that Judge S. names, i. e. that the latter gives increased size, and the former greater aptitude to fatten. But there is some diversity as to which breed the boar should belong. Those having acquaintance with the subject, are invited to make our columns a vehicle for imparting information to others.

For the Union Agriculturist.

Avon, Kane Co., Feb. 1, 1841.

Sheep.—My practice is to have the lambs fall as early in the winter as possible; I can then keep them from wolves and foxes with ease. I feed the ewes through the winter each day with a few potatoes or turnips, and a little corn. I shear my lambs if they have ticks when I shear the old ones; if they have no ticks, about a month later. My clip from the lambs last year averaged two pounds, sheared the last of June. From one lamb which dropped the latter part of January preceding, I sheared three pounds. The most of my yearling ewes now have lambs—sheep of the common breed.

Spring Wheat.—I sowed Siberian first of April—spoiled with rust. Sowed Bald Whitechaff one week later—middling crop, no rust; same tenth of May, slightly injured with rust.

Swedish Turnip.—Ploughed my ground shallow middle of May; middle of June harrowed till all the weeds were torn out and carried off; ploughed six inches deep, harrowed lightly, bushed down smooth, sowed the seed broad-cast, and drew the bush over again, and had a good crop without hoeing. The deep ploughing turned the weed seeds so far down that they could not vegetate.

To sow broad-cast, take the seed between your thumb and finger—throw to the right one half, the remainder to the left—step short—bouts three paces wide.

Toothache.—"Of a' the human doola thou harest the grce."—*Cure.* Apply boiled or roasted potatoes by way of poultice to the face while hot. A few applications of hot potatoes (☞ externally) to the face will give relief in all cases where the pain is caused by inflamation, produced by an old "snag," in the jaw and gums. A. Churchill.

Suggestions for yourself and the U. A. S.—Bachelder's Patent Planting Machine I think may be made to plant in rows both ways by slight improvement, if it will not do it without, or a new machine can be made that will do it. I would rather he would make the improvement, as I am averse to "jumping claims" by slight improvements.

Would it not be well for the Society to offer premiums for the invention of useful farming tools and machinery. I might possibly lend them a helping hand by way of invention, *without* a premium, if the *thing* to be improved or invented were suggested to me, for I say (do not laugh) that I can invent machinery to do any thing in the power of machinery if the thing to be done is proposed; and yourself or the Society are at liberty to try me on any agricultural subject, if successful one half of the benefit of the invention to the Society the other half to myself—they paying the expense of experiments. A. Churchill.

P.S.—I shall probably bring out my improved mode of harvesting, or harvesting machine, next harvest. A. C.

Note.—The "suggestions" of Mr. C. we suppose he did not intend for publication, and it was by mistake they were set in type; but being set, we let them go in. Three of Bachelder's planting machines will be received by the U. A. S. on the opening of navigation, when they will be put thoroughly to the test, and it may be, the ingenuity of Mr. C. called into exercise.

We wish much a first-rate plan for a bee-hive. Mr. Hall's patent, an engraving of which is in the Albany Cultivator for February, we like the best of any we have seen; but it would be of little service to our Western farmers to furnish a description, because the use of it is protected by a patent. If Mr. C. has experience on that subject, and will send us a drawing to be engraved, he will do us a great favor.

The U. A. S. will probably adopt some course which will encourage enterprise, and the invention of valuable labor-saving implements. We hope the spring meetings, of which due notice will be given, will give a fresh impulse to every department of agriculture among us, and everything connected with it.

For the Union Agriculturist.

Rockford, Winnebago Co., Ill, January 25, 1841.

Mr. Editor,—I have received the two first numbers of your paper, and have forwarded you my subscription for a year, and wish to say, that I shall endeavor to extend its circulation in my neighborhood; and that I most cordially wish you success in carrying out your proposals as a Society for the improvement of agriculture in our fertile region, and in making your organ, (the Union Agriculturist,) the *Cultivator* of the West—a work which we very much need. For, although we have the Albany Cultivator, which, perhaps, no Agricultural paper can surpass, in its tendency to excite a spirit of emulation among farmers, and in its adaptedness to the wants of the whole Agricultural community in the U. States, and particularly in the State of New York, and the adjoining States; yet, we need a paper devoted *exclusively* to the interests of agriculture in the West, as every discerning, practical farmer, who has been in this country two or three years, must be convinced that our system of agriculture must differ materially from the Eastern system—not only in the quantity of ground cultivated—the kind of products raised, and the manner of cultivating the same—but, in the breeds of stock, of nearly all kinds, and the numbers to be kept and annually disposed of, from a given number of acres under cultivation. Therefore, I think, that because a Western farmer is taking the Coltivator, it should not deter him from taking the Agriculturist—I say the Agriculturist, from a conviction that you have commenced under more favorable auspices than any individual could in this country; and that you have located at the most eligible point in our district for obtaining the requisites for making your paper all that we could expect; and as Chicago is and probably will be our main market and depot, I consider our interests in a great measure identified with its growth and importance as a place of business; and I wish to say, that your paper would be much increased in value to me, and no doubt its circulation would be extended, if you would fill a small space in each number with the latest and most correct Chicago prices current, of at least the most important staples of our produce, and perhaps of groceries which are needed in exchange.

Irish Graziers.

But my object in this communication was not to make suggestions, but to give you a brief description of the justly celebrated breed of hogs called "*Irish Graziers*," (which you briefly noticed in your Nov. number,) that you might, if you thought best, through the medium of your paper, give the public some idea of their worth, in comparison with those breeds which have figured so conspicuously on *paper* for some time past; and induce those wishing to purchase, to be on their guard, lest they be imposed upon by those who would sell spurious, or part blooded pigs, for the pure "Irish Graziers." Many *half bloods* have been taken great distances into Missouri, Indiana, (and other States, perhaps,) which have been palm-

ed off for the full bloods; which has no doubt given rise to the opinion, (as for instance expressed by our esteemed friend Solon Robinson, through the Cultivator,) that in *some* points, only, are they equal to the "Berkshires." There are many hogs scattered in different sections called "Irish Graziers," which have perhaps as much *Grazier* blood, as some *Durham* calves, that we frequently see, which may be traced back some two or three generations to a *bull* that was sired by a *bull*, that was got by a full-blooded bull, and out of a common cow.

In 1835, the firm of Norton & Eldred, of Carrollton, Greene Co., Ill., (of which I was one of the partners,) purchased a pair of pigs, from the pair of "Irish Graziers" imported by Mr. Wm. Grear from Ireland direct into Morgan Co., in this State; from which pair, all the pure "Irish Graziers" that I have ever seen or heard of have descended. The imported boar was white, with a gentle waive in his hair, which was thin; and the sow also white, with the exception of a black spot or two on one hip, hair straight, short and thin, shewing a remarkably fine skin, (as indeed did both,) ears projecting forward, not lopped, thin and terminating in a point. These are characteristics of all the full bloods. They occasionally have two or three black spots on some part of the body, but *never* have spots scattered over the whole, or half of the body, and the ears *never* lop lower than a horizontal position when the hog is moving—often not so low. My stock is therefore a division of the celebrated stock of Norton & Eldred, (now Elon Eldred,) of Carrollton, Greene Co, Ill., to whom I would refer, to prove the purity of the blood which I brought from there, and the correctness of my statements. In Oct. 1839, I moved my hogs to this place, driving them 235 miles in 12 days, which, together with scanty keeping, and exposure to all the inclemencies of the weather a great part of last winter, have no doubt prevented their growing as they would have done with comfortable treatment. I have however four sows and two boars of the pure blood—one three years old sow, white, low in flesh for *her*, the third from the imported pair, which now measures in length, from nose to root of tail, six feet one inch, and in girth five feet six inches, is of equal breadth from shoulders to root of tail, and, when in high order, will measure as much in width as depth, and be flatter on the back than on the side; the same height before and behind, with less droop than I have seen in any other breed, and no disposition towards hollowness of back. These points are more or less developed in all full bloods, and in most of the grade hogs. I have two, two years old sows, from the above sow, and a pig of the imported pair, (one having two black spots, and the other a black speck in the hair,) equally good, and one sow pig ten and a half months old, white, which measures from nose to top of head ten inches, thence to root of tail four feet three inches, whole length five feet one inch, and in girth four feet eight inches, in good breeding order only, and she never has been fed as much milk as she might have eaten in one day, and has not been *full* fed with any thing, and I have yet to find the man that would have a point about her altered to make her better or finer.

I measured a full blood, before I came from Carrollton, that had been *full fed* on boiled food and milk, less than nine months old, that measured in length six feet one inch, and in girth six feet two inches. Ny boar, *Daniel O'Connell*, is from my sow, and a pig of the imported breed, that when fattened weighed alive 688 lbs., and dressed 650 lbs.; so said the butcher, measures in length six feet 4 inches. I sold a full blood runt pig, which I thought, a year ago, too badly stinted to sell or keep to breed from, in Nov. last, at nineteen months old, which, I have been informed, weighed in Galena, within a few pounds of 800;* the above are all the full bloods which I have known fattened. I have known ten in one lot, half and three-fourth blood Irish or Russia and Byefield, from 12 to 18 months old, which weighed *well*, from 454 to 560 lbs.

I had intended to give many more facts and particulars, but must omit them for want of room; and merely add, that in every place, both in this State and Kentucky, this breed has taken premiums over any and every other breed of hogs; and where these hogs have been introduced, those districts are taking the lead of all others in the weight and quality of the pork which they drive to market. I have known $300 offered and refused for one sow; and have refused all prices for mine, up to $100 each. The price of full bloods is $10 each, (often double that, but never less,) at six to eight weeks old, and thus far my pigs have been sold (generally) in advance, and I have now on hand several orders for pigs next spring; and all the "Irish Graziers" that are nearer than Peoria, have gone from my stock, since I came from Greene; therefore they can refer to me or produce my certificate. What pigs I may raise next spring, will be of age to wean from 15th May to 1st June; and may be seen with the breeders four miles and a half North-East from Rockford, on the Beloit road.

Further information, and any reference desired, may be had by request, either by letter or through your paper. I wish you to make such a disposal of this communication as you think best for the agricultural interests of your district, and will perfectly satisfy Your obedient servant

J. S. NORTON.

* I expect to make a boar and sow which I have weigh together when fattened 2000 lbs.

For the Union Agriculturist.

ELGIN, Kane Co. Ills., February 13, 1841.

SILK CULTURE, No. II.

Mr. Editor,—The importance of the silk business to our common country, and especially, as I conceive, to our own State, together with the awakened interest and desire of information respecting it manifested by the people generally, induce me to make an effort, through the columns of your valuable paper, to advance the *good cause*. If, by what I may say, any of your readers shall be induced to *begin* in the business; or having begun, shall be aided in their progress, my wishes will be gratified and my object obtained.

The question then—*making silk*—shall we make it? *Can* we make it? If we can—is it a matter of profit and of economy? We want the article—who indeed can do without it? We must have it, we will have it—though the balance of exchange be against us individually, and though it increase the balance of trade against us nationally, to the enormous and alarming amount of $20 millions annually.

Surely it is no part of our character as a people, to let prejudice beguile us of our interests, or ignorance obstruct the highway of enterprise.

What then can be relied on as *facts* in relation to this business? I ask not what are the exaggerated statements of theorists and visionaries. But what do we learn from the numberless *experiments*, which, for the last three or four years, have been made in every State of the Union?

We learn that in it, and about it, there is no mystery which plain common sense cannot easily comprehend—no difficulties in its details, which ordinary intelligence, patience and perseverance cannot surmount. It is practicable, easy, simple, profitable; and it is all this in as true a sense as common farming. A boy will as easily learn to grow mulberry trees, as other trees; as readily learn to feed and manage silk worms and produce cocoons, as he will to raise poultry or pigs; and it is as easy to learn a girl to manage a cocoonry, and to reel and manufacture silk, as to learn her to knit stockings, spin wool and make flannel. It is peculiarly a domestic employment; affording light and agreeable as well as useful occupation to the mother, the wife, the sister, the daughter—to the aged, the feeble, and the young.

As an important item in the products of the soil, it commends itself especially to the attention of every farmer.

Thousands of experiments have demonstrated that a little attention bestowed upon this, without detriment to other branches of agriculture, would add from $100 to $300 annually to the proceeds of the farm. One acre of land, and a small outlay for trees, would be sufficient; some portion of the farm-buildings could be used for feeding a month or two. The actual expenses of fixtures and labor would be balanced by the State Bounty, which is $1 for every 10 lbs. of cocoons, 50 cents for every pound of silk reeled, and $1 for every pound reeled and thrown

The Profits.

As to the actual profits of the business, the results of experimenta vary; but all unite in stating, that the profits per acre, after deducting all expenses, never fall below $100, and after the second year sometimes exceed $500. The crop is sometimes made from one hatching in six weeks—sometimes, from several successive hatchings, in 3 months.

If, then, the farmer can produce 16 lbs. of raw silk, worth $100, with one-fourth the labor and expense which it would cost him to raise and market 200 bushels of wheat, or 400 bushels of corn, worth about the same sum; and if, especially, this can be done without prejudice to the ordinary business of the farm, does not interest, does not economy, require him to make this important addition to his other resources? "This ought be to do, and not leave the other undone." Is it good economy to send his daughter away from home to labor three months for a silk dress, when she might produce silk enough in the meantime, to purchase an entire new wardrobe, and a feather bed or a cow besides? Or is it good management to keep the girls at home, without profitable employment, while himself and larger boys are toiling to furnish them with necessary, if not gay and expensive, apparel? The true secret of economical thrift and good management, is to bring the entire family in requisition, and require all, if possible, to produce as well as consume.

For the production of silk we have soil and climate singularly propitious—equal to China, superior to France and Italy. Compared with the two last silk-producing countries, statistics to be relied upon, show a difference in our favor of 10 per cent as to leaves, and of 25 to 37½ as to the amount of raw silk produced from a given number of trees and worms. This fact alone is sufficient to silence forever the common objection of "high price of labor." It is equally true that our raw silks are superior to foreign, both in strength and lustre—foreigners themselves being judges; and, being well reeled, will command a higher price. Besides, the ingenuity of our countrymen has already so simplified and facilitated the business by appropriate *contrivances* and improved management, as to place us on an *equal* footing, at least, with the most successful silk-growers in the world; and the time is not distant, when our silk *stuffs*, like our cotton manufactures, will compete, at home and abroad, with the beautiful fabrics of England, France and China.

What shall repress the ardor and enterprise of our citizens when fairly committed in this race of rivalry? The field is open indeed to all—the farmer, the mechanic, professional men, the man of large capital, of small capital, and of no capital—open for people of business, for people of no business, and for people above business—for the rich, who will find it not only an agreeable amusement, but a matter of public importance worthy their fostering care—for the poor, who will here find, if not a *short*, yet a *sure* and honest way to competence and wealth.

Enclosed is a sample of sewings, taken from a lot of *several pounds*, the product of our *first experiment*. My family had *never seen a silk worm*, nor *a cocoon reeled*; all the knowledge we had of making silk was derived from books. We used the common wheel and reel.

Very respectfully,

B. TRUSDELL.

NOTE.—The sample of sewings, shows Mr. T. to be well qualified by experience to give instruction in this branch of employment. Although made without the usual conveniences, it is equal to any we ever saw. It is *perfectly* smooth and even, and is convincing proof that the farmer himself can prepare silk for the dyer, equal to any Italian sewings. We have not yet learnt that the art of dying has been acquired in this country, so as to give the lustre and retain the strength of the Italian.

Mr. T.'s able communication upon the advantages of the silk culture to the Western farmer, has well prepared the way for them to attend to his subsequent articles; and we hope his time will permit him to send us something for each subsequent No., so that the columns of the "Agriculturist," will furnish full instructions for the culture of it, from the planting of the trees, to the reeling and spinning of the silk.

For the Union Agriculturist.

GOSHEN, Cook Co. Ills., Feb. 15, 1841.

Mr. Editor,—I see in the Agriculturist, No. 1, for January, a challenge sent me by Mr. L. Ellsworth of Naperville, to try my speed with him on the Rohan potatoes. I will accept the challenge, although I expect to be beat by him, for I have often seen the exuberant growth of vegetables in his settlement; but if I am defeated in the combat I shall have this to console me, that it was in a good cause, and will freely give him the bound volume proposed. I would suggest to him that we use thirty pounds of seed instead of sixty; for in trying to do the best, if I am to come off conqueror, I shall probably use more land than is profitable. The cultivation of the Rohan is a new thing to me; but as far as I have tried them, I think they will prove to be one of the most valuable of roots, and as I have a plenty of seed I intend to try several experiments in raising them.

Yours respectfully, JOSEPH VIAL.

For the Union Agriculturist.

IMPROVEMENT OF STOCK.—Doubtless the best mode of improving the stock of the farm, is by obtaining some of the improved breeds; but is this the only way? Most of our farmers have a good cow or two with which little if any fault can be found. So with their pigs. Among their sheep also, some have good wool and good carcass, and all may be improved by proper care, either by selecting good animals of their own or a neighbors to breed from, if the improved breeds cannot conveniently be come at. If this course had been steadily pursued, we should have little need of importing stock; and if this course is *not* adopted and *perseveringly* followed, the benefits resulting from imported breeds will be of short duration. On the contrary, how often is the reverse taken. Some miserable fall calf is left to run and starve his way up to about the size of a huck sheep, is still neglected and runs with the cows; the consequence is that the calves are after this miserable "runt," (to use a significant Yankee phrase,) and show the marks of their sire in every point. To be sure the cow will give milk after bringing forth such a worse than an abortion, which is the only advantage the farmer can derive from his cow, for the calf might better be knocked on the head—it will not pay for raising.

Every farmer can finish the picture for himself with the pigs, sheep, &c.

Do not sell the best Stock.

Another great reason why some farmers have no better stock is, that they sell for slaughter or slaughter themselves, their best breeders of the cows, ewes and sows, thus destroying all prospect of improvement.

Does a heifer show a disposition to fatten easy; she is encouraged by feed until fat, and sold or eaten, while her fellows, which appear to be of the breed of Pharaoh's lean kine, are kept for milk and raising calves. Has a farmer a sow pig, that becomes fat with the same feed on which the rest of his swine are starving, he gives her the knife and propagates the *frames* and covers them at great expense with corn. Has he a fine, round, bright-eyed ewe, she will be fat about the time that his half-filled pork barrels are empty, and she is stripped of her jacket, the wethers having been sold long before. Thus many farmers go on perpetuating their miserable stock.

Farmer Pennywise and Farmer Poundwise.

There is farmer Pennywise with whom I am acquainted, will occasionally raise a good heifer, steer or colt, for his neighbors keep good breeds, and he by accident will be occasionally benefited thereby. When he has such an animal in his flock he is apparently uneasy until it is disposed of; and after selling such an animal, a heifer for instance, if you follow him into the house you may hear something like the following: "Well, my dear, I have sold the 'big heifer' for fifteen dollars; is not that a good price for a heifer of her age?" "Good price indeed," his *better* half would reply, "you had better have sold two of them little catlish'd, crooked-legged, scrawny things that you always keep for cows. The reason that our cattle look so bad, and that we sell so little butter and cheese is, that you will sell the best heifers." Poor woman! I pity her; her pride and ambition are injured, and her children and self in rags, because her native industry and economy are cramped by the foolish and niggardly policy of her husband.

The picture is reversed in farmer Poundwise, who always keeps his best animals until full grown; then selecting the best breeders for his own use and selling the rest. If he has a good young horse, he will say, that will make me a fine team horse; a mare, she will make a good brood mare. "And what will you do with that," says his neighbor, pointing to an ordinary animal. "Between you and I," says he, "I shall sell that colt the first chance. Such animals spoil the looks of the rest, and do not pay for keeping." Thus he will sell his poor steers, heifers, sheep and pigs at the first offer. If not sold, he would fatten those that would pay the expense, and give away those that would not. Not pay the expense of fattening! Are there any cattle, sheep, or hogs, that will not pay the expense of fattening?—Reader, take some of each, of the real Pharoah breed, feed them until fat, keep an exact account of the expense, and you can answer the question yourself. In this way farmer Poundwise always has valuable stock; his steers are ready sale and command a good price; his horses are the best in the neighborhood, and the first to be looked at by purchasers. So with all the animals that he raises. Pennywise on the contrary, is thronged with an ill-shaped worthless stock that none will buy and pay the expense of raising; which are continually eating out his substance and making no return. Thus Pennywise drags on a miserable life in the road to ruin, while Poundwise moves easily and happily along in the road to wealth.

This is not all fiction, look about you reader, and you will see plenty to sit for the picture of Pennywise; and if you have the least suspicion that I mean you, take the opposite course at once. C——.

For the Union Agriculturist

"NATIONAL AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE."

John S. Wright Esq.—Dear Sir. You will see by the Feb. No. of the Cultivator, that the subject of the formation of such a society, is again under discussion. You will probably recollect that my first article upon the subject, published in May 1838, met with much approbation. The late political storm having subsided, I felt that *now* was a proper time to commence the organization of a society, the object of which should be, by forming "a bond of brotherhood among all the friends of agriculture through out the United States," "*to elevate the character and standing of the cultivators of the American soil.*"

You will see also, that the respected editors of the Cultivator, admit the utility of such a society, but express fears that the time has not yet come to commence the organization—

that the friends of the measure are so wide spread, that there would be a fear of failure of being able to bring the friends of the measure together to form an association 'worthy of the name and object.' You will see that the great benefits likely to result from the formation of a National Society, are admitted by all, and that the point at issue is, when is the proper time to commence.

Many of the friends of the project are in favor of the present time. They are anxious while they are in active life, to witness the commencement of a society that has such noble ends in view. They are anxious before they are called to that great meeting that all must attend, to have the opportunity of meeting the friends of Agricultural improvement from every portion of our Union, met together in what may be aptly termed a Congress of Farmers.

But more I presume, are anxious to undertake without due deliberation, and a reasonable prospect of success. I am therefore anxious for your opinion, and that of the friends of the agriculture generally in the West, whether the signs of the times for the year 1841, are propitious to the object of commencing the organization of this great National Society.—Don't say, let us wait for the East to move—this is a project worthy the enterprise of the great West.

The farmers must never expect legislative encouragement, either State or National, until they rely more on themselves. They must first move in their own cause until it becomes *popular* to support their interest, and they will then find plenty of Legislators, ready to aid it "to the death."

We are creatures of excitement, and apt to sink into inactivity without it. Does not the agricultural community of the United States need rousing? Can any plan be devised better calculated to arouse and excite them than would a great National meeting of a National Agricultural Society.

If the plan of present action meets with favor, I have an idea of enlisting as a Missionary in the cause, and "going forth through the land seeking to do good." I think I would "blow my trumpet" so loud that it would disturb the slumber of some of the sluggards, if it did not entirely awake them. I remain most respectfully, SOLON ROBINSON.

LAKE C. H. Ia. February, 19, 1841.

MR. WEIGHT, In answer to "Young Farmer" in relation to the expense of fattening pork, under favorable circumstances, etc., I herewith send you an extract from my farm-book, which you are at liberty to insert if you think it worth the powder. It may not be improper to state, in the first place, that I have a good breed of hogs, and suitable conveniences for preparing food, feeding, etc.

Winter of 1839 *and* 1840.	50 bushels potatoes, market price 12½ cents, cost 8 cents,		6 25	
	110 bushels corn, do. 50 cents, do. 22 cents,		24 20	
	Loose grain thrown in the yard with straw, etc.		50 00	
Fall 1840.	930 bushels potatoes, market price 10 cents, cost 7½ cents,		69 75	
	180 bushels corn, in the ear, do. 30 cents, do. 25 cents,		45 00	
	210 bushels do. ground, do. 27 cents, do. 22 cents,		56 70	
	Pasturage and care throughout, - - - - -		67 20	
	Butchering and marketing, - - - - -		60 00	
	Interest on last year's feed, and on cost of piggery, - - -		30 00	
	Natural wear of boiling apparatus, etc. - - - - -		18 00	
	- - - - -		50 00	
	- - - - -		10 00	
	- - - - -		10 00	
	- - - - -	358 20		368 65
	I sold 1806 lbs. pork, at 4 cents, - - -		72 24	
	Do. 5460 lbs. do. 3½ cents, - - -		191 10	
	On hand, 1600 lbs. do. 3½ cents, - - -		56 00	
	390 lbs. lard, 7 cents, - - - - -		27 30	
	21 shoats fed with fattened hogs, 81.50, - - -		32 50	
	- - - - -		369 64	369 65
	Actual cost, - - - - -			9 49

The cost then of my pork this year is about three and a half cents per pound.

JAMES C. HATCH.

East Du Page, Feb'y 17, 1841.

NOTE.—We are obliged to Mr. H. for furnishing us so perfect a specimen of a farmer's book-keeping. By adopting this course, a farmer can tell which of his crops—what portion of his stock is most profitable. Without some such system, it is all mere guess work.

One may go on without these little formalities, and acquire independence; but how much more satisfactory will it be to him to have precise accounts and statements to which he can refer, and know with certainty how everything is prospering with him. This is what we very much wish of our correspondents, that they may not be liable to mistakes.

Our readers will notice how decidedly this statement favors pork raising.

ATTENTION TO COWS ABOUT TO CALVE.—Cows which are shortly expected to calve ought to be lodged at night in some convenient place under cover for a week or two before calving, as it might be the means of saving the life of the calf, and perhaps of the dam likewise. The day and night after a cow has calved she should be kept under cover, and her drink should be lukewarm. Let her not be exposed for some time to the dampness of the night.

Cows which are near calving ought to be fed with better and more substantial food than usual. Grain of any kind is now useful, but it should be crushed, bruised, or coarsely ground. If the cleaning of a cow after calving be delayed, it may be promoted, according to Dean's "New England Farmer," by giving her a pail of warm water with some ashes in it; or, according to "The Grazier's Guide," the only thing to be given is toast and weak wine, or good cider or perry. If wine be preferred, mix it with an equal quantity of water. This toast should consist of four pints of wine and water, and about a pound and a half of bread toasted.

Inflamed teats should be washed with two drachms of sugar of lead in a quart of water. Should tumors appear, apply a common warm mash of bran with a little lard.

To prevent cows from sucking their own milk, it is said that rubbing the teats frequently with the most fetid cheese that can be procured is an effectual remedy.

In order that it may be ascertained what is the proper time for cows to go dry previous to their calving, an account should be kept of the time when each cow is put to bull, so that the cow may be dried off in due season. The following prescription for drying off cows is given in Mouk's "Agricultural Dictionary."

"Take an ounce of powdered alum; boil it in two quarts of milk till it turns to whey; then take a large handful of sage, and boil it in the whey till you reduce it to one quart; rub her udder with a little of it, and give her the rest by way of drink; milk her clean before you give it to her; and as you see need repeat it. Draw a little milk from her every second or third day, lest her udder be overcharged.

WEANING AND REARING CALVES.—Mowbray says, "The calf may be sold (or taken from the cow) as soon as it has drawn the blessings or first milk, unless any *coring* or defect in the cow's udder or teats may render it desirable for the calf to suck a few days, in order that the action may clear off any obstructions, for which the butting of the calf's head is generally the best remedy. If intended to be fattened for the butcher, it must be kept in a pen particularly dry and clean; suckled twice a day at regular hours; always have the first, which is the thinnest of the milk, and not be permitted to overcharge its stomach. Lumps of soft chalk are usually placed for the calf to lick, as an absorbent to neutralize the acidness engendered in the stomach from feeding on milk. It seldom pays to fatten a calf beyond ten or twelve weeks.

"A calf may be weaned by being gradually accustomed to suck milk in a pail through the fingers. Many are reared on very little milk mixed with hay tea, linseed, or other slops; fed on straw in the winter, and in summer on the common: such cannot be expected to turn to much account. The best cattle are reared from the teats, well wintered in good shelter, and full fed until they attain their growth. Warmth and dry lodging are of the utmost consequence to the improvement of all young animals. Calves may, however, be reared to good profit, by being suffered to suck a very moderate quantity daily, the bulk of their food consisting of skimmed milk, thickened with oat or wheat meal; their winter food being carrots or Swedish turnips sliced, and cut straw, with a small quantity of hay, daily."

"The Grazier's Guide" observes, "If the calf be intended for the butcher, it may be taken from the cow in about a week or ten days, and fed the remainder of the time by hand; but the time of taking the calf away must be determined by the state of the cow's udder; for unless that be free from kernels and indurations, the calf must be allowed to suck, as the jolting of its head is the means of healing or restoring the udder, and preventing the downfall or inflammation in this part, which might cause much trouble, and even endanger the life of the cow.

"But if the calf is intended to be reared, it should not be weaned until at least six weeks or even two months old, whether male or female. For such, there is no food like the cow's milk; and if she does not yield a sufficient quantity, that of another ought to be had recourse to. It is an incontrovertible fact, that the longer a calf sucks, not only the larger and stronger will it become, but it will also acquire a much better form and more robust health."

Calves which come early should be preferred for the rearing. Those which come late, do not acquire sufficient strength to bear the cold of winter; they languish, and are reared with difficulty. Calves should not be weaned too suddenly, but by little and little. The less they are able to eat, the more they should be allowed to suck; after a while they may be brought to take it from the pail. This is done by placing the hand in the milk, with the palm upwards, and under the milk, while the fingers are raised above the surface of the milk for the calf to lay hold of with its mouth, which it does very readily, and sucks up the milk with great ease.

When they are completely taken away, they should be fed with a little bran, and some of the best soft and fragrant hay of the second crop; they should be allowed plenty of the skimmed milk, and now and then a little water in which barley has been boiled and broken up, or a little buttermilk occasionally. There is at first some difficulty in bringing them to drink, but a little persoverance will accustom them to it.

Moderate warmth and *dry lodgings* are of the utmost consequence to young calves; and if we would turn them to any good account, they must not be stinted either in these or in their food. Calves which have recently been weaned and are not at pasture should be fed often, at least three times, and it is better five times a day. As soon as they are fit to follow the mother they should be let out, as they are greatly benefited by air and exercise. Calves sometimes acquire a habit of sucking one another, of which trick they may be broken by separating them.

Calves cannot be kept too clean, nor have fresh litter too often. If they are suffered to lie on their own dung and urine, they will become mangy, and scarcely ever thrive. They are subject to several disorders, such as diarrhœa, dysentery, costiveness, etc. As a means of preventing the greater number of the diseases to which they are liable, the following rules are prescribed in "The Farmer's and Grazier's Guide."

"1st. Let the young calf suck the first milk. This will cleanse its bowels, and prevent costiveness.

"2nd. Let it suck from its mother at least two months, and then wean it gradually.

"3rd. Let its first food be such as is easy of digestion, and let it have plenty of sweet skimmed milk and good hay.

"4th. Keep it very clean, well rubbing it occasionally with a wisp of hay or straw.

"5th. Keep its stable clean, and perfectly free from all impurities.

"6th. Let it have gentle exercise; the best will be following the mother in the meadow or pasture.

"7th. Do not stint it either in good food or good drink, and change its litter often enough to keep it clean, sweet, and dry."—*Complete Farmer.*

BEES AND BEE-HIVES.—We have prepared one article after another on this subject, but they have all proven unsatisfactory. In the February No. of the Albany Cultivator is a drawing of Hall's hive, which we like much; but it would be of little use to our readers now to insert it, for the right of using it is protected by a patent. We know of no one who has the power of selling them in the West.

Many speak highly of giving a room in a house to the bees, or building a house expressly for them. For those liking this plan we have procured the following instructions from a Connecticut gentleman, who has seen a similar one in successful operation.

Cut a small hole through the side of the house, a few inches above the floor. In it place a wooden tube, three-eighths of an inch by two and a half inches wide. The outer end should project a little distance from the house for the bees to alight on, and be drooping, that water, &c., might not be conducted in. This tube should lead into a dark box, 6 or 8 feet high, and 3 or 4 feet square; the dimensions can conform to the room in which it is to be placed.—In one side have a door through which you can enter the box, and place the box near the wall, so that the tube may be short. In the box place a stand three or four feet high, made of scantling, fastened with plenty of runs. On the stand place the hive, of the dimensions of which the user must be the judge, and let the top be rough and project over the sides, say a foot. Shelves might also be fastened to the outside of the hive, rough on the under side. The bees will first fill the hive, which will contain the bee bread and the progeny, and then work on the outside, furnishing pure honey.

If a room in the second story could be devoted to the bees and place the box in that, it would prevent the bees flying all over the house when the box was opened to obtain honey. The honey could then be removed as it would be needed, and by opening a window the bees would soon find their way out of the room to their hive.

The great advantage of this plan is, that swarming is prevented. They will not swarm when they have room to work. There are various opinions as to the utility of keeping them together in this manner; those favoring it, considering the convenience of obtaining the honey, and of preventing loss by swarming as paramount; while the opponents say it is contrary to the nature of the bee, and that they do not prosper as well in such large communities.

A friend suggests that it might be better to suspend the hive, rather than place it on the stand. Fasten a chain or polo to the ceiling of the right length, on the end of which is a hook. Put an eye in the top of the hive, and it can then be put on and removed without difficulty. The hive in either case, we should say, should have no bottom.

If the bees could have a room by themselves, it would be well to have the door into it, and also the door of the box, divided for the purpose of ventilating it. Also the upper sash of the window fixed so it could be lowered—then if a hole were cut through the box opposite the door, which in the day time could be covered by a slide, by opening the upper parts of the doors, and dropping the window and removing the slide, in very warm nights it would be better ventilated.

The following plan for an ordinary hive, suits us better than any we have found, except Hall's patent. It is from the Western Farmer and Gardener of Cincinnati, which by the way contains many excellent things. The file of it is received, for which the editor has our hearty thanks—at some future time we may have it in our power to return the favor, when the opportunity will be gladly embraced.

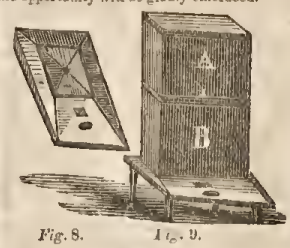


Fig. 8. *Fig.* 9.

SUBTENDED HIVE.

"I lay no claims to originating the Subtended hive, but only to improving on the suggestion of M. Ducouedic, a celebrated French apiarist; and adding to his plan a stand or shelf of my own, which, with a reasonable share of attention, will secure the bee from the moth, and from hornets and other such enemies; and enable the proprietor to remove all the honey each hive can spare, without inconvenience or annoyance to the inhabitants

"The great and insuperable objection to bee-palaces, rooms fitted up in the garret, large boxes with small ones of glasses fixed on top, and the various other like plans too generally adopted and always ending in disappointment, is, that they all aim at compelling the bee to work contrary to its natural habits, instead of guiding and assisting those habits. One object aimed at, is to prevent their swarming—an ill-judged attempt and poor economy, as I shall prove before I have done. Another is, the convenience of getting honey at any time—to attain this, boxes or glasses are placed *on top* of the main hive, with the idle hope that the bee will reverse its usual course, and work up, instead of *down*. They may do so once, and yield their proprietor some very fine honey, in mice, white comb; but rarely work up a second time, only using the empty box as a withdrawing room, in very warm weather! [This is different from what we supposed.] Such additions, too, form capital breeding places for the moth.

The stand [Fig. 8] is made of a piece of two inch pine plank, *clear stuff*; length 24 and breadth 18 inches; eight inches from one end, and two from the other and from each side, is marked a square of 14 inches; from the outside of the square, the board is dressed off, with an even slope, until its thickness at the front edge is reduced to half an inch, and at the other three edges to about an inch. The square is then reduced to twelve inches, in the centre of which is bored an inch auger hole—to this hole, the inner square is also gradually sloped to the depth of an inch—thus securing the bees from any possibility of wet lodging about their hive. There will then be a level, smooth strip of one inch in width, surrounding the square of 12 inches, on which to set the box or hive. Of course, it is not absolutely necessary to use these precise dimensions—I am only giving those that I have found answer best. Four inches from the front edge of the stand, commence cutting a channel, an inch and a half in width, and of such a depth as to carry it out,

on an even slope, half way between the inner edge of the hive and the ventilating hole in the centre. Over this, glue a strip of wood, after fitting it neatly, dressing it down even with the slope of the stand, so as to leave a tunnel an inch and a half in width, by a quarter of an inch [three eighths] deep. Over the centre hole, nail a scrap of screw wire, to prevent the entrance of insects; and over the outlet of the tunnel, hang a small wire grate, in such a way, as that it can either be thrown back, to permit th. exit of the bees, or fastened down to keep them at home in clear days in winter. For feet to the stand, I let in four, of what are called double tenpenny nails or 20d spikes. The lower end ought also to be planed smooth, and the whole should have two coats of white lead paint, some time before it is wanted, that the offensive smell of the oil may be dissipated, before the bees are brought in contact with it.

The boxes [Fig. 9] are formed of good pine or poplar plank, one inch thick, and twelve inches [or a cubic foot] in the clear, every way. They must be planed inside and out, except the top, which will be left rough on the lower side, that the bees may be able to attach their comb to it. They should be neatly put together, the edges jointed, so as to fit perfectly close, and leave no crevices for the moth to insert its eggs. The more effectually to prevent this, I find it a good practice, before nailing the sides together, to put a little thick white lead paint along the edge, which renders it completely tight. The top ought not to be served so, but put on as closely as possible with six or eight screw nails, that it may be removed to facilitate the taking out of the comb. I cut no mlots in any of the boxes, the tunnel serving that purpose, but dress the lower edge so that it will fit perfectly tight. I should also give the outside of the boxes two coats of white lead paint, puttying up every crack or crevice before laying on the second coat—it is in such places that the moth lays her eggs, and when a box is carelessly made and full of cracks, or stands so long on the shelf as to become so, it is impossible to prevent the destruction of the bees contained in it.

"When a young swarm comes off in the spring, take box A, put the swarm in it, and in the evening set it on the shelf in the apiary or bee-shed. If the swarm is at all a strong one, they will come very near filling one box—I have had swarms from the subtendel hive, that came near to filling two. It rarely occurs, however, that a single swarm is too numerous for one. If they are *not* so crowded as to require the immediate addition of another, let them remain undisturbed in box A for a week or ten days, when by gently raising the box some evening, it will be found that they have nearly, if not ent rely filled it with comb; in which case a second must be added, B, by an assistant lifting the one in which the bees are, and another, after carefully sweeping off the stand with a little broom, slips the other one under, in the top of which have been bored 4 inch and a quarter auger holes. The bees next day continue to work down through the second box, as quietly as if nothing had been changed, and in two or three days, if the season be at all favorable, they will make a considerable quantity of comb in it. If the season happens to be a poor one for the bees, and the swarm originally rather weak, the box A may be found sufficiently large for them the first season, and they must be allowed to winter in it, not adding B before the following spring. This is always to be regretted, and should be guarded against by putting two such swarms together, so soon as it is seen to be requisite."

In condensing the above, we have altered the Nos. to conform to our engravings.

If two boxes are not sufficient, more may be added; but they should be fastened together in some way, either by hooks and staples, or by strips of boards.

Grapes.—It is said there is a superior kind of wild grape indigenous to Illinois. If so, it should be made known; for there probably is no exotic species that will so well repay attention. In travelling over Illinois, we have often noticed the abundance of the Frost Grape, and the immense size to which the vines grow, though we never have seen any sweet grape. Some persons acquainted with the kind or kinds, should furnish a description. It is unnecessary, and a taste that should be corrected, to seek in foreign climes for comforts and luxuries that may be supplied at home. It is adverse to our professed American independence.

The first of this month, if the vines have not already been pruned, it should be done.—The slips should all be set out. It is but little work to cut off suitable lengths (6 to 10 inches) and stick them in the ground, and if you will not want them when started, your neighbor will give something in exchange for them. The following is from the Newburyport Herald:

"Mr. Boyden, of Foxborough, has discovered a native white grape in that neighborhood, which is pronounced equal to the European Sweetwater, and can only be distinguished from it by a careful investigation. It will no doubt improve by cultivation, and if productive will be a valuable acquisition, as native grapes will need no pruning, and no protection in the winter. We found last year, among a quantity of the common wild purple grape, a few of a kind fully equal to any of the European varieties, having a thin skin, sweet, and free from the foxy taste so common to our native grapes. We made diligent inquiry for this vine, but were unable to procure it. If any of our readers find any vines furnishing superior fruit, they will do well to mark them now for transplanting early next month. The best kinds will command high prices when the good quality of the fruit becomes generally known."

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

The citron melon makes a very good substitute for apples in mince pies; and if it be cut fine and added to apple or cranberry sauce, it is no injury but rather a benefit.

Parsnips.—If this vegetable were cooked as it should be, it would be classed among the best. After boiling (salt should be put in the water before boiling,) slice it thin, and fry in butter or the fat of fried pork. It is no injury if it be covered with batter.

To make Ginger Loaf.—A pint of molasses, a pint of buttermilk, with a teaspoon full of saleratus dissolved in it, four eggs, flour put in till it is about as stiff as for pound cake, add ginger and spices to suite the taste, and cook in a common oven—the cake will be light, cheap, and delightful.—*Agriculturist.*

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST.

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

MARCH, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

John Dean Caton,	of Will Co.,	Pres.
Lee Hills,	" La Salle "	Vice Pres.
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Lewis Ellsworth,	" Du Page "	
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Seth Washburn,	" McHenry "	
Wm. B. Ogden,	" Cook "	Treas.
Jno. S. Wright,	" do. "	Rec. Sec.
Do.	" do. "	Cor. Sec.

It is truly gratifying to find the efforts of the U. A. S. to promote the agricultural interests of the West, so warmly seconded by friends, not only from Northern and southern Illinois, but also from Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin; and to find the paper thus far meets with such general acceptance; and we are not sorry that friends far and near feel sufficient interest in it, to propose alterations which they think could be made with advantage. They will of course expect us to have some plan of our own; but so far as we can avail ourselves of their suggestions, we shall do so with pleasure.

In commencing the new series, the form of the paper would have been altered to thirty-two pages, if the necessary materials could have been obtained. The type now set would make a pamphlet of thirty-two octavo pages. Another year it will be published in that form.

We regret exceedingly to hear that some have declined subscribing because of the poor quality of the paper. Could they know the exertions that have been made to procure better, instead of complaining they would feel like giving every encouragement, and their dollar would be sent in even if the paper were not half as good. Immediately on the opening of navigation, good paper will be obtained.

One good friend suggests the advantages of employing agents; and says, in coming to Chicago recently, he found many entirely ignorant of there being such a paper as The Union Agriculturist. This is wrong most certainly; and the members and friends of the Society, will not long suffer such a state of things to exist in its district. Doubtless agents could be employed with advantage, could those of the right kind be obtained. A *good* agent—one who would appreciate the benefits to the farmers of the West, that would result from a rightly conducted paper of the kind, and be able to make them feel the necessity of their contributing facts and information, in order to make it highly useful—such an agent would do us great good, and would be most gladly employed. But an agent of a different character might do much harm.

But if our friends—local agents, subscribers and correspondents, were as much interested in the work as we hope they will be; so that they would speak of the paper, and show a copy to a friend when they met him, the necessity for travelling agents would be principally done away; and the great expense the Society would have to incur in employing them, would be saved for the benefit of the paper. Friends, will not each of you procure for us *immediately* one subscriber, and more than that will not be refused. There is many a farmer who would cheerfully subscribe, were he aware of there being such a paper. Perhaps one of them is your neighbor. Please show him the paper, and ask him for his subscription, and to send us something for publication.

The above was crowded out of the last No., together with several other articles.

Societies Auxiliary to the U. A. S.—What steps are being taken to organise county Societies? The time of holding the spring courts, when the farmers are brought together, should be improved by each county. There are now eight counties, and if an auxiliary society were in active operation in each of them, it would greatly increase the benefits of the parent Society. They are, in fact, absolutely necessary to its efficient management.

Notice has been received, that under the new organization of the circuit courts, they are to be held as follows: commencing in Grundy (new county) on Friday, 16th April; in Will, Monday, 22d March; Du Page, Monday, 19th April; McHenry, Monday, 26th April; Lake, Monday 3d May; and in Cook, Monday, 10th May. For the counties of Kane and La Salle, we have not been able to learn the time. The bill has not become a law, but it probably will be passed in this form.

In Will, it will be seen there is no time to be lost; and some few of the friends of agriculture should determine upon the time *instanter*, and have it published in the papers. If in the several counties, a few would agree upon the time and place of meeting, and send us *soon* a notice of it, they could all be printed in one handbill, thereby saving considerable expense.

Many will think it is no concern of theirs to see that a notice is given; but it belongs to one, as much as to another; and any one that understands the importance of those societies should not wait for his neighbor to act, but go forward himself. What is every one's business, belongs to nobody. There is more to be apprehended from this feeling, than any other cause that may operate to prevent the organizations.

Agents.—We regret exceedingly that type has not been procured to set the names of the agents for Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. The list for Illinois has been kept out for both the last Nos., because they could not all be inserted. They will all be given in the next if possible.

"Western Farmer.—This is the title of a new agricultural paper, about starting in Detroit, Michigan. This will make three agricultural papers started in the West, within the last few weeks. We are fearful that they will prove too many, in order to make them useful. If the one at Chicago, Indianapolis, and Detroit, could all be centered into one publication, and published at some central place, say here, or Niles, we believe more good would be done. However, our friends can take their choice of three, all we ask is to wake up and no longer neglect the *true* path to wealth and happiness—Agriculture!"

The above is taken from the Michigan City Gazette, which, by the way, deserves our thanks for its frequent kindly notices of this paper.

When the U. A. S. commenced publishing The Union Agriculturist, no member had any knowledge of any paper of a like character being about to be commenced either at Detroit or Indianapolis; though it would have made little difference had it been known; for the object was mainly to furnish its members with agricultural information of value to them, at the lowest rates possible, and to establish an organ for publishing the reports, addresses and communications of the members. It was not expected that more than two or three hundred copies would be circulated out of the district.

After the publication of the October No., and while preparing matter for the November No., numerous solicitations were received that the plan should be enlarged, and its circulation extended throughout this State, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Accordingly a proposition was made in the November No.; which having been extensively circulated, met with such a favorable reception, that it was determined to commence a new series; (there not being a sufficiency of the first Nos. to supply subscribers,) and to print an edition of 2500 copies. The arrangements were made, agents obtained, etc., before we knew of the Detroit and Indianapolis papers.

It is indeed to be feared that we shall not all be able to sustain ourselves, and doubtless each one thinks all in danger but himself. But while it may be hard work for us, the farming community will derive benefit from the competition, for the strife will be, which paper shall be made most valuable, for the best conducted will be the best sustained.

As to uniting the three at some new location, it would probably be impossible; for the advantages this paper possesses of being connected with the U. A. S.; and also the organ of the Illinois State Agr. Soc., would preclude the possibility of such an arrangement; and doubtless the other papers would have equally strong objections to a change.

We see no other way, but to tug along, and by increased exertions to make our papers valuable, insure a more general subscription to them. The farming interests even now require, and are able to sustain them all; and the only object of the U. A. S., is to make the receipts for the paper equal to the expenses of publishing it. That was all that was contemplated in its commencement. Money making was not the object then, much less is it now, with two new competitors in the field. The greatest cause for regret is, that by having the limits of our circulation somewhat prescribed, it will prevent the rapid improvements in the paper we had anticipated. But with a fair proportion of assistance, we shall not come altogether short of our object.

The Sugar Beet.—In the February No. of the Albany Cultivator, is an article condemning *in toto*, the culture of the sugar beet in any part of the U. S. Before noticing it, we would premise, that in our humble opinion, any man who condemns—and that too, "without hesitation," a root which the experience of others, (probably as worthy of regard as his own,) has shown to be a valuable acquisition—such a man is to say the least, guilty of the most arrogant folly; and however valuable his opinions on other subjects may be, they will none of them be received with candor and obtain respectful consideration from strangers, if such an article be first seen.

Such is the case with the writer before us; and though it may be owing to misapprehension, the impression is left on our mind, that little confidence can be placed in Mr. Guthrie's opinions on any subject. He may sometimes hit right, but we should want some other assurance of the fact than his own. We never heard of the man—never read one of his articles before, and it is entirely immaterial if we never see another.

According to Mr. G.'s opinion, the beets at the East are good for nothing, and he doubts whether the beets on the prairies will not to still more worthless—he says he has taken considerable pains to ascertain the fact, and gives a solitary instance of a friend of his in St. Clair co., "whose beets grew to a great size, but were destitute of sweetness." The proportionate quantity of saccharine matter is never so great in over-grown beets; and we "have no hesitation in saying," that such is not the general character of our beets. In the instance referred to, we doubt not they grew on the American bottom, where the soil was too rich. We have heard the culture of the beet spoken of by many of our Western farmers, and no one has yet testified that he thought it other than a most valuable root; well worthy the attention of every farmer, if to be used for no other purpose than feeding stock. There has been as yet, but little done in manufacturing sugar, chiefly for want of information. But the time is not far distant, when Illinois will manufacture at least sugar enough for her own consumption; Mr. Guthrie to the contrary notwithstanding. We consider the matter settled by experiment, and "have no hesitation in saying," that the *Sugar Beet is one of the best roots* for a farmer in the West to cultivate.

In our last No., Mr. Gifford shows how a different result may be attained in manufacturing sugar, from that of producing "a waxy, rank-flavored, sweetish mass."

Since writing the above, in further examining the Cultivator, we find Mr. Guthrie severely criticised by Mr. Garnett of Va., for the same reasons that we find fault, and regret we did not see the notice sooner, that the time used in preparing this, might have been devoted to a better purpose. Besides noticing his remarks on the sugar beet, he extracts from his published correspondence upon the China Tree corn, which at one time he lauds to the skies, and then condemns it as the *greatest* of all the agricultural "humbugs" of the day. This is just the course we should have expected from him. Then after the China Tree corn he puts the Rohans as the next in the order of "humbugs."

Notes from our Memorandum Book.—Mr. Reuben Beach of Hadley, Will co., told us more than a year since, that he had cultivated winter wheat successfully every year since he had been in Illinois, which we now seeing said that he thought its liability to winter-kill was owing generally to the careless manner in which it was put in. He said his crops had not suffered by frost though some of his neighbors had; and that he harrowed it in more thoroughly than most farmers. We allude to this subject at this time, that some farmers of experience, and we hope many of them, will give the subject into consideration, and be prepared to send us articles at the appropriate time. It would be necessary to any one if sent soon. Articles upon any part of the work will be most acceptable.

Mr. James Long of this county, tells us the best way to set out shade trees on the prairies, (and why not fruit-trees also?) is to set them on the surface of the sod, and cover the roots to the proper depth with earth brought from a distance.

GARDENING.—There is nothing like system to accomplish any object. Especially is system valuable—even essential, when the same kind of work is to be performed year after year. How seldom is it that a farmer or gardener follows the advice of Mr. Bridgeman, to keep a regular account of the times of planting the various seeds, the amount of seed &c.; yet all will acknowledge the benefits of adopting that course, and if giving advice to a neighbor might very likely urge him to pursue it. It is what we have never done, but shall commence it this spring. Will not others do so also? We shall then all of us, be better prepared to express opinions; and experience obtained with care in that manner, will be well worth giving for the information of the West. Were a young man to commence the keeping of such memoranda, in the commencement of his farming and gardening, and maintain it with precision for ten or twenty years, would he be likely to regret the labor or time spent in it? It is of peculiar importance to us of the West, that such a system should be adopted by all, and more particularly by those who might or *should* write for agricultural publications—As we have often remarked, we have got to learn every part and branch of agriculture and horticulture by our own experience—comparatively speaking, other experience is of little value. Data should therefore be preserved for future reference.

We hope to receive original articles on this subject; and if not procured, the remarks this spring will be chiefly of a general character.

The work from which we extract being prepared for the latitude of New York, is as well adapted to this region as any we know of.—Those much to the South or to the North, would have to vary in the time to suit their latitude.

From Bridgeman's Gardener's Assistant.

The mode of laying out the ground is a matter of taste, and may be left to the gardener himself; the form being a thing of trifling importance in the production of useful vegetables, or whether the ground be laid out in beds of four or ten feet wide, provided it be well worked, and the garden kept neat and free from weeds.

Those who have not a garden already formed, should, however, fix on a level spot where the soil is deep; but as we have not always a choice, I recommend the reader to that which is within the reach, and ought to be the object of every man, namely, to make the most of what he has.

To this end, he may form a border round the whole garden, from five to ten feet wide, according to the size of the piece of land; next to this border, a walk may be made from three to six feet wide; the centre part of the garden may be divided into squares, on the sides of which a border may be laid out three or four feet wide, in which the various kinds of herbs may be raised, also Gooseberries, Currants, Raspberries, Strawberries &c. The centre beds may be planted with all the various kinds of vegetables. The outside borders facing the East, South and West, will be useful for raising the earliest fruits and vegetables; and that facing the North, being shady and cool, will serve for raising and pricking out such young plants, herbs and cuttings, as require to be screened from the intense heat of the sun. It may be necessary to state further, that though shady situations are useful for the purpose of raising Celery, Cabbage, and other small plants, slips &c., in the summer season, that all standard trees should be excluded from a Kitchen Garden, for the following reasons:—First, their roots spread so widely, and imbibe so much moisture from the ground, that little is left for the nourishment of any plant within the range of their influence;—Secondly, when in full leaf they shade a large space, and obstruct the free circulation of the air, so essential to the well-being of all plants;—Thirdly, the droppings from trees are particularly injurious to whatever vegetation they fall upon.

Previous to entering on the work of a garden, the gardener should lay down rules for his future government. In order to this, he should provide himself with a blank book. In this he should first lay out a plan of his garden, allotting a place for all the different kinds of vegetables he intends to cultivate. As he proceeds in the business of planting his grounds, if he were to keep an account of every thing he does relative to his garden, he would soon obtain some knowledge of the art. This the writer has done for the last seventeen years, and he flatters himself that a publication of the results of his practice will be interesting and useful to his readers.

If gardeners were to make it a rule to record the dates and particulars of their transactions relative to tillage, planting &c., they would always know when to expect their seeds to come up, and how to regulate their crops for succession; and, when it is considered that plants of the *Brassica*, or Cabbage tribe, are apt to get infected at the roots, if too frequently planted in the same ground, and that a rotation of crops in general is beneficial, it will appear evident that a complete register of every thing relative to culture is essential to the well-being of a garden.

One important point to be attended to, is to have a supply of good old manure, and other composts, ready to incorporate with the earth; also a portion of ashes, soot, tobacco dust, and lime, for the purpose of sowing over seed beds in dry weather; this will tend in a great measure to destroy insects, which sometimes cut off the young plants as fast as they come up.

If the ground cannot be all manured every year as it should be, it is of primary importance that those vegetables be provided for by dispersing of the manure immediately under the seeds or plants.

The next important matter is to have the ground in suitable condition to receive the seed; I wish it to be understood, that I am an advocate for early sowing and planting, even at the risk of losing a little seed, provided the ground be fit to receive it. A light sandy soil will be benefitted if worked when moist, as such treatment will have a tendency to make it more compact; on the contrary, if a clay soil be worked when too wet, it kneads like dough, and never fails to bind when drought follows; and this not only prevents the seeds from rising, but injures the plants materially in their subsequent growth, by its becoming impervious to the moderate rains, dews, air, and influence of the sun, all of which are necessary to the promotion of vegetation.

Some gardeners as well as some writers, recommend certain fixed days for sowing and planting particular kinds of seeds; I think it necessary to guard my readers from being misled. The failure of crops may be often attributed to the observance of certain days for sowing. If some kinds of seeds be sown when the ground is wet and cold, they will become chilled in the ground, and seldom vegetate. If they be sown in very dry weather, the germinative parts of the seed may become injured by the burning rays of the sun, or the young plants may get devoured by insects as fast as they come up. To obviate these difficulties, I have generally allowed a week or ten days for the sowing of the seeds, intending the medium as the proper time for the vicinity of New York. With this clearly borne in mind, the reader who observes the difference in the degrees of heat and cold in the different parts of the country, will know how to apply these instructions accordingly.

Much depends on the manures used on particular kinds of soils. The great art of improving sandy and clayey soils, is to give the former such dressings of clay, cow dung, and other kinds of manure, as will have a tendency to bind and make them more compact, and consequently more retentive of moisture; and to the latter, coats of horse dung, ashes, sand, and such other composts as may tend to separate the particles and open the pores of the clay, so as to cause it to approach as nearly as possible to a loam.

The nearer the ground approaches to a sandy soil, the less retentive will it be of moisture; the more to a clayey, the longer will it retain it; and the finer the particles of which the clay is composed, the more tenacious will it be of water, and consequently be longer in drying, and the harder when dry; but earth of a consistence that will hold water the longest, *without becoming hard when dry*, is of all others, the best adapted for raising the generality of plants in the greatest perfection. This last described soil is called loam, and is a medium earth, between the extremes of clay and sand.

STABLES FOR CATTLE.—Agreeably to your wish, I send you some directions for the construction of stables. For neat cattle, stanchions are in many respects the best. They save fodder, time in putting up the cattle, and keep them much drier and cleaner than stalls, where the animal after eating steps back to lie down. They are also much safer; and a better place to milk heifers and yoke steers, cannot be conceived.—Steers kept in them a short time, will be found to be half broke.

For oxen 3 feet should be allowed, and 2½ for cows and young cattle. The spaces for the necks for the former, 8½ inches; for the latter, 7; and the height to the under side of the beam, 4½ feet. The stanchions should be sawed 4 by 1½ inches and rise 3 inches above the beam to make room for the yoke, (which is the best kind of fastening,) one end of which must turn on a pin driven through the fast stanchion. To shut the stall, it is only necessary to give the stanchion a push; and raising the end of the yoke will open it.

The basement of a barn is the best place for stables, where it can be had. A barn 30 by 38 feet will give room for a bay 16 feet wide, a manger 4½ feet, a row of stalls 7 feet, and leave 10 feet for manure. The stalls should run from East to West, and be open to the South. In a manger 4½ feet wide, the hay can be carried from end to end when the cattle are in the stalls. A root cellar should open into it from one end of the bay.

The floor of the stalls should have a descent of three inches, and be elevated a foot above the ground in front, which may descend another foot as it recedes from it; and if paved with flat stones it is all the better for it.

The labor of cleaning stalls of this description is very trifling. The manure is left under shelter; and the whole front being left open, answers the purpose of a shed for the cattle through the day.

Where the ground will not admit of a basement to the barn, sheds will answer the purpose of stalls. They should be made tight against the Northerly winds, and a door should open into the barn from the manger.

Floors may be laid on clay mortar made thin and turned on the ground, which has been graded for the purpose. They are cheap, safe, and are believed to be desirable.

The above is the result of my own experience. All my cattle except calves are stabled in this way. Each beast knows his stall, and stands ready to put in his head as soon as it is opened.

I am well aware that some people object to open stalls. They are too cold, say they; but some of the same persons think it no sin to keep their cattle at a stack in the open field, with snow for a bed, and no better shelter than a rail fence.—*N. H. Farm. Gaz.*

USEFUL RECIPES.

BLIND STAGGERS.—A correspondent of the New Genesee Farmer gives the following remedy for this disease in Swine.

"As to the cause of this disease, I am not able to speak decidedly; but suppose it to arise from a determination of blood to the head. Leaving the cause, therefore, to abler hands, I will proceed to the cure. Catch the hog, and with a sharp knife, make an incision thro' the skin 2 or 2½ inches in length, vertically on the forehead, about 1½ inches below the top of the head, and insert into the wound and under the skin, as much fine salt as possible. Repeat the application hourly, and it will very soon effect a cure."

HOVEN CATTLE.—The contrivance of Dr. Morris, of England, first published in 1793, is the most effectual, and may not be known to all of your readers. It consists of a flexible tube, made of wire, covered with soft leather. Dr. M. found that the distance from the fore-teeth to the first stomach of a large ox is six feet; therefore the tube should be a little more than that length. On this being thrust down the animal's throat, so as to enter the first stomach, a large quantity of fetid air, or gas, will be discharged, and instant relief afforded.

If this instrument is not at hand, recourse must be had to tapping. Take a sharp penknife and introduce it into the paunch, between the hook bone and the last rib on the left side. To assist the escape of the gas, a quill, or small tube, may be introduced into the orifice. As soon as it ceases to escape, a pitch plaster should be applied upon the place; and, if all is done with care, but little injury will result from the operation.

The following cordial may afterwards be given with advantage:—Take 2 oz. of Anise seed, Diapente, and Elecampance, in powder; 2 oz tincture of Rhubarb, and 1 oz. Spirits of nitre. Mix and give in a quart of warm gruel.

Respectfully yours,

AN ENGLISH EMIGRANT.

New Genesee Farmer.

To cure scratches on a horse—wash the legs with warm strong soap suds, and then with beef brine. Two applications will cure the worst case.

A piece of saleratus or pearl-ash crowded into the pipe of a poll evil or thistelows, two or three times, will cure this *incurable* disease.

Corn meal should never be ground too fine. It injures the richness of it. Try it coarse. This is the secret why Western "dodgers" are so good.—*Solon Robinson.*

SCOURS IN ANIMALS.—A writer in the Maine Farmer, recommends for this disease finely pulverized bone. We have never seen it tried, but from the nature of the substances that constitute bone, such as lime to correct too great acidity, and gelatine to smooth the irritated surfaces, it is probable its employment would be useful.

COLORING WALLS.—It may not be generally known, particularly in the country, that blue vitriol when mixed with lime, forms a very beautiful as well as exceedingly cheap coloring matter for walls. Take good lime and slack it as usual, one and a half pounds of blue vitriol, dissolve the chrystals with boiling water, when dissolved mix it with the white wash, and add one pound of glue well dissolved.—This should be prepared in a glue pot if possible to prevent its being burned or scorched. When well mixed the first coat must be put on horizontally or from side to side, and the second coat vertically or up and down. The wall will be of a bright blue color resembling the blue bottles sometimes seen in apothecary shops. By following these directions, women can put on the coloring as smoothly and as well generally as men.—*Town.*

SCAB IN SHEEP.—The following from the Baltimore American Farmer, we have tried to condense, but find it impracticable.

"The most certain manner to prove when the sheep has got the scab, is to apply your finger to the diseased part—scratch the scab or scurf hard, and the sheep will turn his head, and similar to a dog dying in a rabid state, he will show a disposition to bite; frequently rubbing against the fence, or whatever he can, and laying down, turning his head to his shoulders and side, nabbing and pulling the wool, &c.—And now for the cure: without delay, every sheep which is, and those which are not diseased, must be anointed or salved, as the English shepherd terms it,—for if but one in a flock should be diseased, the whole of the flock, no matter how great the number, if left to contend with the disease without applying the remedy, will all have it—but if timely attended to, you might confine it to one sheep, provided but one has been diseased: dress him immediately with the ointment I shall prescribe, and if properly applied, not one more of the flock will take the disease; but a proper time must be particularly attended to, or you kill instead of cure; the weather must be clear and the sheep kept dry under cover—an open shed will do: not at the season when the ewes sheep has got her lamb by her side suckling—I have done so myself, and killed the lamb.—The method of using the ointment *is this.*—Beginning at the head of the sheep, and proceeding from between the ears, along the back to the end of the tail; the wool is to be divided in a furrow till the skin can be touched—and as the furrow is made, the finger slightly dipped in the ointment is to be drawn along the bottom of it, when it will leave a blue stain on the skin and adjoining wool; from this furrow similar ones must be drawn down the shoulders and thighs to the legs, as far as they are woolly; and if the animal is much infected, two more should be drawn along each side parallel to that on the back, and one down each side between the fore and hind legs: in a few days the blotches dry up—the itching ceases, and the animal is completely cured. To prepare the ointment, take one pound of quicksilver—half pound of venice turpentine—and four pounds of hogs lard; let them be rubbed in a mortar till the quicksilver is thoroughly incorporated with the other ingredients; for the proper mode of doing which, it may be proper to take the advice or even the assistance of some apothecary or other person used to making such mixtures. This quantity of ointment is sufficient for a large number of sheep. You can make as much as you think will do for the number of sheep you have to anoint. I have tried tobacco water, and injured my sheep. For a number of years past I have not made use of any other medicine than the ointment above described, and always found it a certain cure.—I keep it generally in my house in a stone jar, secluded from the air. One skilful hand would anoint the sheep—but I should recommend three, if they have not been accustomed to perform the operation: one to hold the sheep—one to open and divide the wool while the other applies the ointment. I have found it to take about one pound to ten sheep; a smaller or larger quantity will not do any harm. A skilful hand commences in the following manner to anoint his sheep: he makes a small leather bag of the upper of an old shoe—a very small one, and puts it to the sleeve of his coat—puts a small quantity of the ointment at a time in it—selects a clean spot in the sheep yard—sits down, and lays the sheep on his lap and commences salving. But when I commenced, I performed as above, with two to help me, with my sheep standing on his legs.

The cause of your sheep loosing their wool, &c. might arise from too kind treatment—in giving too much corn—keeping them too warm—in not using the vegetable article freely—and, I might add, plentiful use of salt, &c."

ORCHARDS AROUND FARM HOUSES.—It is expedient that every farm should have some portion of orchard ground attached to it. The most convenient and guarded situation for it is immediately behind the house, so that the back kitchen door may open into it. It matters not whether it be on the north or any other side of

the buildings. Many think that an orchard should be in a low sheltered spot, but this is a serious mistake. Fruit trees succeed best on a moderately high and open situation. Shelter from wind is certainly necessary, but this protection must be obtained otherwise than by planting in a dell. A deep mellow loam is most suitable for an orchard. It does not require to be richly manured, provided it is fresh, unexhausted and sufficiently dry. Whether the subsoil be gravel or stony, provided such beds lie not too near the surface, it will be no detriment to the trees; but if of a tenacious clay which is retentive of moisture, then draining must be resorted to, in order to free the soil from superfluous moisture. This must be done effectually, otherwise it will ever be a subject of regret to the planter. A sloping surface is better for all plants than a dead level, not because a heavy or long continued rain or melted snow runs off the sooner, but because that portion of it which sinks into the ground gradually passes downwards in an under current, leaving no portion to stagnate in any one place, and to become prejudicial to the roots. The most profitable kind of orchard is that which contains all kinds of hardy fruit trees and bushes, and where the land is solely appropriated to that purpose.—*Charleston Agriculturist.*

FARMER'S MEETINGS AT BOSTON.—During the session of the Legislature of Mass., the farmers are improving the opportunity of being brought together, by holding weekly meetings, at which various subjects connected with agriculture are brought forward for discussion.

Another session of the Legislature of Illinois, will probably witness the same course adopted by means of the State Agricultural Society. Such interchange of opinions is most useful and entertaing to those feeling any interest in this cause.

The course adopted by Col. Jaques, is the same recommended by C. in his communication on another page.

A full description of the Ayrshire breed will be found in the Jan. No. How long will it be before THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will be permitted to record a donation from some benevolent individual like Mr. Cushing of Watertown.

The following is extracted from the Boston Cultivator, being a part of the report of one of the meetings. We shall give more hereafter.

The Commissioner H. Colman, enumerated the most noted breeds of neat stock raised in our own country and adverted to some of the English breeds. He spoke of our Devons, or red cattle, of the Ayrshires which are noted for their small bones, small horns, and long slender necks. He considered the Yorkshire breed coarse and not much improved—said the Holderness breed came from Holland. He thought the Herefords were coming more into favor in England than they have formerly been. He thought the short horn Durhams not so good as some for milk. He spoke of the Oakes cow of Danvers which had given milk enough for 19 lbs. of butter in a week, and had for several weeks in succession given enough for 16 lbs.

Col. Jaques, of Charlestown, gave us quite an interesting and amusing account of his select stock which he names the Cream Pot breed. He said that in 1819, admiring many points in the short horn Durham breed, he thought he could find some of our natives which would produce a profitable cross—he examined the best native stock in several parts of the country—at length he found a cow, from Groton, which suited him—she was considered a native and had the marks of the Devons—she had a calf by the noted imported bull Celebs—from these two animals he traces his stock of fifty head.

Col. Jaques has been casting off all the individuals which did not suit him, and by retaining those only which did, he says he is now able "to breed to order." He has truly some fine stock and he produced some of the cream which was gathered the day before and he churned it to butter in one minute in a bowl in presence of the whole assembly. The cream was very thick and there seemed to be no buttermilk of any consequence to be separated from the butter. Col. J. says one hundred pounds of cream will produce ninety-five pounds of butter. The Colonel has undoubtedly got on the right track and having pursued it for many years and kept his favorites from intermixture with spurious cattle through several generations he can now with great certainty foretell the qualities of their progeny.

Col. Jaques spoke particularly in favor of the Ayrshire breed of cattle which Mr. Cushing of Watertown has introduced on his farm. He said Mr. Cushing had imported and given away a large number of these animals to different societies for the benevolent purpose of improving the stock of the country.

Mr. Putnam of Danvers said he had this week seen in Southboro' a cow of the Cream Pot breed which would yield 15½ pounds of butter per week—the *color* of the cow did not suit Colonel Jaques and he therefore sold her off.

The following is the conclusion of a letter of a valuable correspondent of ours, published in the Rockford Express. He attacks to effectual demolition some of the agricultural *humbugs* of the day, and some which we are inclined to think not so much *humbug*.

The Rohan potato, condemned by him, seems generally to meet with considerable favor from our Western farmers. Its great productiveness,—which every one admits, and its easy culture, class it among our first roots to be cultivated for breding stock. As to its value for table use, it depends entirely on taste.—Though Mr. L. dislikes them much, others are equally fond of them. But their deeply sunken eyes make a thorough cleansing difficult.

It is some time since we have heard from Mr. L. and as the following will convince our readers of his capability of writing for use—not merely for show, they will doubtless look forward with interest to communications from him.

"Mr. Editor, the wants of almost every Farmer in this region, point to his duty—that is, to leave these scenes of speculative uncertainty, to attend to improving and increasing his stock; and above all things at this time, when grain is low, "*to clothing his family.*"

This clothing is not adapted to this latitude: and we may say of it as did the Roman General, who stripped the golden robes, made of the spoils of the Carthagenians, from the marble statue of Heiro the 2d, at Syracuse—"that it was too cold for winter, and too hot for summer, and that he would put on it garments of Wool, fit for both seasons." In a word, our farmers must raise Wool; the sound of the spinning whirl and the shuttle must be heard among us. The people of Northern Illinois must clothe themselves.

The production of Grain without a cash market will not enable us to buy foreign clothing; the present system is one under which neither the farmer nor the merchant can live and prosper. The domestic cloths of our Eastern States are far better for our use, and can all be manufactured among us; and I trust that I shall soon see the day that our people will produce wool enough to make them independent in respect to domestic clothing at least, with a surplus to send to the Eastern markets.

There are some other productions which would be of great utility among us. We should make our own cordage and coarse linens. The consumption of the former is already considerable, and would increase immensely if our Legislature would adopt one clause from the old statute of South Carolina, by which the penalty was '*hanging*' for stealing a horse.

Yours, &c., GEORGE W. LEE."

Kishwaukee, Jan. 21, 1841.

Let every one of our friends—every practical farmer, consider these observations from the Nashville Agriculturist as applying to him personally. We would iterate, and reiterate SEND YOUR FACTS.

"An *incognito* correspondent has given us a note, requesting that our columns be filled entirely with "*facts*," and nothing but facts.—The advice is good; but we must say to our friend "*Farmer*," if any agricultural paper of the "States," for the time that it has been in existence, contains more facts than ours, we should like to have it pointed out. We pretend neither to flourish embellishments, nor speculations, and we think this is a good time to say to our correspondent, and all others whom it may concern, that the man does not, and never has lived, who can write twenty-four pages the size of the Agriculturist, of facts per month, from his own experience. Take the Albany Cultivator for example;—no Journal of the country has so many facts in relation to the agriculture of the north; and whence does it get them? from the experience of the Editors alone? By no means. Correspondents furnish most of the matter, and the Editors digest and put it in form. What could we not do, if the farmers of the great valley would send us their experience every month? Every paragraph would contain a fact. But the truth is, too many farmers of the West say, by their conduct, it is not their business to tell the result of their exertions. It is a *fact* known to us, that not a few, in this country, think they know something about the garden, farm, stock, &c. that no other one knows, and for fear others will be profitted by their knowledge, keep it to themselves. We know some who think they have discovered plans to produce early potatoes for market, and they are too contracted and niggardly in their feelings to tell the world what they know. Patriots and open-hearted gentlemen desire to keep nothing secret that will benefit their contemporaries. But shame to tell the fact, that some are so illiberal, that if they have learned to cure a horse of the cholic, or scratches, they must exercise their secreteveness for poy. We knew an old miser who lived in an adjoining country, that was the only one of all the country round that seemed to understand the secret of raising sweet potatoes: and this his covetous, contracted little soul made him keep to himself, till it did seem the very vengeance of heaven fell upon him for his inhumanity, and he was driven from the country in disgrace. Farmers are bound by every principle of justice to their country, to give the facts of their experience to their fellow citizens.—These slight hints, we trust, will be enough for the wise. Send your *facts*."

YOUNG MEN'S DEPARTMENT.

From the Southern Agriculturist.

NOTES AND REFLECTIONS ON SOILS, AND THEIR IMPROVEMENT.

Vegetables, like animals, derive their nourishment from the products of organization; but while the multifarious wants of the higher order of animals impel them to rove the earth's surface in quest of food, the more humble vegetable, having no faculty of spontaneous motion, is fixed to the soil, from the bosom of which it pumps up, by its infinitude of radicles, a portion of the nourishment necessary for its subsistence, while another portion is imbibed from the circumambient air, by its expanded foliage. The chief organic materials by which both these kingdoms of nature are nourished and sustained, are susceptible of being reduced to a few gaseous elements,—Oxygen, Hydrogen, and Nitrogen—which by combinations amongst themselves, and with other ultimate elements, form numerous proximates, some of which are common constituents of both animals and vegetables, while others are peculiar to one or the other of these.

Of the materials which serve to nourish animals and plants, a part is absorbed into their organs in solution, or in a liquid form, while others are taken up in the gaseous state. Out of these liquids and gases, all the fluid and solid constituents of the individual are elaborated, and the various compounds which they form, after subserving their destined purpose for a definite period, are eliminated by special organs, while their place is supplied by new products of the same kind. But while the delicate and complex organization of animals and vegetables is formed chiefly out of the materials of other organized bodies, it has entering into its composition a due proportion of saline and earthy constituents derived from the mineral kingdom, which subserve important ends in the economy of all living beings. As it is by the study of animal organization in relation to the food upon which it subsists, that we become acquainted with the laws of animal nutrition, so, also, to enable us to acquire correct views of the nourishment and growth of vegetables, we must investigate them in reference to the materials out of which their organs are formed. In the prosecution of this inquiry, we have to consider them—1st. In reference to the superficial crust of the earth, in which they are fixed by their numerous diverging roots. 2d. In relation to the atmosphere in which they rear their branches, and spread their verdant foliage. The first element of the inquiry, therefore, embraces the consideration of soils, as their various constituents—mineral and organic—their origin; the modifications of which they are susceptible; and the changes they undergo in becoming subservient to the support of vegetable life. This subject is not only interesting as a branch of physiological inquiry, but is deeply important in relation to the science of agriculture, of which, indeed, it constitutes the most essential element.

1. *Of Soils.*—The superficial crust of the earth's surface, to which the term soil is applied, is almost infinitely diversified, as regards composition, moisture, dryness, cohesiveness, and fertility, according to the influences modifying its formation, and the physical and chemical changes perpetually going on in its different parts. In examining the character of soils, however, all their constituents may be referred to two heads:—1st. The mineral substances, which form their substratum, or primary elements;—and 2d. The organic materials which have been superadded, and upon which their fertility mainly depends.

A careful investigation of the external configuration and internal structure of the earth clearly indicates, that its different strata have been formed at different and remote periods, and that all of them have been extensively disturbed in their relative position, or otherwise modified, either by causes acting with sudden and great violence, or others of slow, but protracted influence. In reference to the periods of their formation and deposition, the materials composing the globe have been grouped under the following heads, or formations:—1st. Primitive rocks—including granite, gneiss, and mica slate—with which are often associated hornblend rock, serpentine, crystalline limestone and quartz. 2d. The transition series—comprising argillaceous, or clay slate, graywacke, transition and mountain limestone, porphyry and greenstone, clinkstone and basalt. 3d. The secondary series, under which we have coal, magnesian limestone, red sandstone, lias limestone and clay, gray sandstone and chalk. Some of these are not found in this country. 4th. The tertiary formations, comprising clay, sand, sandstone, limestone, gypsum, marl, &c. 5th. Diluvial and alluvial deposites—the first comprising blocks of rock and beds of sand and gravel, distributed irregularly over the surface of the earth, and often transported far from the place of their proper origin by the force of an overwhelming deluge;—the second, deposites of disintegrated rocks, consisting of sand, gravel, broken fragments, mixed with portions of soil, wafted by the currents of rivers from more elevated situations, and spread along their banks and at their mouths.

Incorporated with all their formations, except the primitive, and constituting a considerable proportion of many of them, are vegetable and animal organic remains—the latter consisting chiefly of the bones of extinct animals, corallines, together with marine and fresh water shells. Besides the natural constituents of the rocks, a great diversity of metals, salines, and other mineral substances, are disseminated through the different formations, and impress upon them important modifications—Thus, under the influence of physical causes, operating through a long series of ages, the solid rocks, composing the crust of the globe, have undergone a process of disintegration and comminution; their soluble constituents have been taken up by rains, currents, and standing water, to be again deposited in crystalline or other forms; the various organized products partly vegetable, and partly animal, which crowd the earth's surface, by successive decay and dissolution, unceasingly add new depositions; so that in the course of time these have accumulated, and are still accumulating an assemblage of heterogeneous materials, subject to a perpetual play of chemical affinities. In this manner soils are formed, and the due admixture of their several materials, aided by temperature, moisture, light, electrical influences, and the chemical compositions and decompositions constantly going on in their multifarious elements, imparts to them their capacity and fitness to support vegetable life. From them the plant derives its food, while the amount of this pabulum, and the promptness with which it is yielded, are in an exact ratio with the quantity of nutritive elements in the soil, and the readiness with which they are given up to the organs of the plant. Hence, the importance to the agriculturist of a correct knowledge of the source and properties of this food; of the best means of supplying it when deficient, and of promoting those changes by which it can be fitted, in the shortest possible time, to support vegetation. The investigation of these topics would involve a wide field of inquiry. It would comprise not only all the difficult problems of vegetable physiology, but likewise an accurate determination of all the properties of the various constituents of soils, and the never ceasing changes which they experience under physical and chemical influences. For these reasons, I shall confine my present remarks to a few reflections upon the organic constituents of soils, reserving the other elements of the inquiry for a future occasion.

The organic constituents of all soils are of course derived exclusively, from the products of vegetable and animal life, which have either accumulated accidentally, or been added to them by the arts and industry of man. Of these materials, as they are found in soils, a part are insoluble, while another portion is already in solution, or in a condition at least, to admit of being readily dissolved, when acted upon to the requisite degree of heat and moisture. It is only in the latter state that they are capable of furnishing food to plants, the insoluble portion being altogether incompetent to subserve this important end, until reduced to a soluble condition by favorable influences.

If we submit these vegetable constituents of soils to a careful chemical examination, we shall find them distinguished by their properties, into three leading forms; and for the sake of description we shall designate the aggregate by the appellation *Humus*,—using this as a generic term—under which may be ranged the three forms or varieties as follows:—1. *Extract of Humus*; 2. *Geine* or *Humine*; and 3. *Carbonaceous Humus*. The first is soluble in water. The second, according to Berzelius, is a peculiar substance, analagous to Apothegm. It forms the predominant constituent of Humus, and its properties will be particularly described presently. The third is insoluble in water, alcohol, alkalies and acids. It will be proper to notice each of these materials separately, after which I shall indicate their individual relations, and endeavor to deduce some general principles applicable to vegetable physiology and the science of agriculture.

1.—*Extract of Humus.*

This substance, according to Berzelius, may be readily obtained by macerating the vegetable matter of soils in cold water. It is of a yellowish color, and when the solution is evaporated, it leaves a yellow extract of a bitter taste, from which geine is separated if the extract be re-dissolved. This extractive matter is often held in solution by the waters, rivers, lakes and springs, and is deposited on exposure and by evaporation, frequently forming a sediment at the bottom, or a pellicle on the surface, still more discolored in many instances, by the addition of peroxide or iron. It was no doubt, owing to the agency of this ex

tract of bumus in n state of solution, aided probably by the presence of geine, that in the numerous experimants which were formerly adduced to prove that pure water was capable of furnishing all the necessary food to support vegetable life, plants were found to flourish in this fluid. As therefore it axists in soils, where it is readily dissolved by rain and dew, its importance in agriculture is unquestionable.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Instead of inserting matter selected for this department, we cheerfully give way to the following communication. Of the utility of such schools properly conducted, there can be little question. We hope something may be done, and that right speedily for the establishment of such an institution among us; and we know of no one better qualified than Mr. G. himself, to remove certain contingent obstacles, such as obtaining the funds, &c.

PLAN FOR A MECHANIC'S SCHOOL.

For illustration, take the trade of an iron-finisher; which requires that the mechanic should understand toking the iron, steel, or other metal from the bar, forging and finishing it, and to draw his own plans and designs of machinery to work from.

The first thing necessary, is to eboose a location where there would be sufficient demand for the work of the shops, sons to turn the labor of the scholars or apprentices to the best account; also, a pleasant and retired situation suitable for the school.

Fire-proof workshops, sufficient for 100 apprentices or scholars,	$10000
Steam-Engine to drive machinery,	2000
Machinery and tools to start with,	5000
Buildings for school teachers and boarding house,	10000
Stock to commence with,	1000
	$28000
10 per cent interest on the above,	2800

Scholars would be taken at 14 years old, who had learned to read, write and spell well, and had made some proficiency in arithmetic, grammar, geography and philosophy. They would furnish their own clothing, but the board, lodging and washing would be furnished by the school, and each scholar would pay for the first year, $120; second, 100; third, 80; fourth, 60; fifth, 34, sixth, 00, which would amount to 394; and the seventh year be paid $30.—This would leave to be paid by each scholar $364, which would be one dollar a week on the cost of board.

One half of the scholars would work in the A. M., and one half in the P. M., from 6 to 12, and from 1 to 7, and study the other half of the day.

The labor for the first year would be worth	2s.	per day,	250	days,	62 50
For the 2d,	4s.	"	"	"	125 00
" 3d,	5s.	"	"	"	156 25
" 4th,	6s.	"	"	"	187 50
" 5th,	7s.	"	"	"	218 75
" 6th,	8s.	"	"	"	250 00
" 7th,	9s.	"	"	"	281 25
					$1281 25
This would be $183 per year, which for 100 scholars would amount to					$18300
This sum would be sufficient to pay the interest on the first investment,					2800
Presidents' and teachers' salaries,					10000
And have left to purchase apparatus, and for contingent expensos,					5500

Thus it will be seen if the plan is feasible, and the estimates correct, that this school would not only support itself and pay all expenses, except clothing and board, but would add a handsome sum yearly for the benefit of the institution. The scholars should study Mathematics in all its branches, Astronomy, Philosophy, Chemistry, and such other English studies as should be thought useful; and among their last studies, drawing—drawings of machines of their own invention. And if the teachers should find a drawing of a machine, an original invention and useful improvement, they should allow the originator to construct a model, and if not too expensive, to make the machine and test it.

There are many advantages to be derived from such a school. It would raise an order of mechanics amongst us, understanding the arts and sciences, that would set foreign competition at defiance. It would do away the distinctions between professions and trades—the mechanic would stand on a par with the L. L. D., the D. D. or the M. D.; and consequently, there being a larger field for the enterprising youth to exercise in, the professions would not be so much overstocked with votaries. One advantage should be noticed in such a school, i. e.—although the scholar has but half the time to study, still they will learn about as much as they would to plod over their books from morning till night without any change; and though they labor but one half of the time, being fresh from study, and wanting exercise, they would perform much more labor in the same hours, than if they worked from morning till night. JOHN GAGE.

As our paper is folded by the printer, we may unwittingly send a subscriber a torn sheet. Upon its being returned, another will be sent.

During a residence of more than eight years in the West, we have not had the pleasure of meeting one of nature's own, like the following, but nevertheless they may be as "thick as blackberries." If this should fall into the hands of any such fair adventurer, will she please send an account of herself.

"WESTERN WOMEN.—One of our exchange papers gives the following account of the doings of one of our fair country women of the west. She lately left a neighbor's a few miles distant from her residence, about 9 o'clock in the night—travelled home—made that night a pot of soap, knit the whole of the leg of a stocking for herself, set out in the after part of the same night and travelled on horseback five miles to a neighbor's house, where she left her beast, returned home on foot, capturing on her way, one possum, and treeing three coons, which, she afterwards said, she would have shot if she had had a gun—making in the course of the night, by her judgment and skill in traffic four dollars, by trading."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Those sending us congratulatory letters, with promises of their aid, have our hearty thanks. Some were doubtless intended for publication for the encouragement of others: but if we commenced, we should not know when to stop, and their great number would make them most unacceptable to most of our readers.

A communication from J. D. Caton, Pres., upon prairie-breaking; and another from Dan'l Elston Esq., upon the new Leicester sheep, accompanied with an original drawing of one belonging to him, were received too late for this No.

It was a disappointment, that No. 2 of Mr. Gifford's articles on the suger beet, was not received. We hope to insert it in the next No.

An interesting communication from D. Wheeler Esq., of Blackberry; and another from Rev. T. S. Hinde, of Mt. Carmel, are just received and will be given in No. 4.

Hon. A. Brunson, of Prairie du Chien, will please accept our thanks for his favor of the 15th ult.

Unless letters are received by the 20th of a month, they may not be inserted in the succeeding No; for the paper is intended to be issued on the 1st of the month, and the matter must be previously arranged.

Cannot our correspondents send shorter communications, and more of them? Some of these on hand, are too long for insertion, but it is difficult for us to divide them.

CHICAGO PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED MARCH 1st, 1841.

BREAD STUFFS—			$ cts.		$ cts.
Flour, Superfine,	per bbl.	3 25	a	3 50	
Corn Meal,	" bu.	28	a	31	
GRAIN—					
Wheat, Winter,	" bu.	48	a	52	
do. Spring,	" bu.	37	a	43	
Corn,	" bu.	28	a	31	
Oats,	" bu.	20	a	—	
Barley,	" bu	25	a	31	
Beans,	" bu.	37	a	50	
SALT—					
Fine,	" bbl.	3 25	a	—	
HIDES—					
Green,	" lb.	3	a	3½	
Dried,	" lb.	8	a	9	
GROCERIES—					
Molasses,	" gal.	65	a	75	
Sugar, St. Croix,	" cwt.	11 50	a	12 00	
do. N. O.	" do.	10 00	a	11 00	
do. Maple,	" do.	6 00	a	8 00	
Tea, Imperial,	" lb.	1 00	a	1 13	
do, Y. Hyson,	" lb	65	a	87	
White Fish,	" bbl.	7 00	a	—	
LUMBER—					
Clear,	" M.	16 00	a	20 00	
Merchantable,	" do.	9 00	a	12 00	
Flooring,	" do.	12 00	a	14 00	
Siding,	" do.	10 00	a	14 00	
Refuse,	" do.	7 00	a	8 00	
Shingles,	" do.	2 00	a	3 00	
Lath, Board,	" co.	8 00	a	10 00	
PROVISIONS—					
Pork,	" cwt.	2 50	a	3 25	
do. Mass,	" bbl.	10 00	a	12 00	
do. Prime,	" do.	8 00	a	10 00	
Beef, no foot,	" cwt.	3 00	a	3 50	
do. packed,	" bbl.	7 00	a	10 00	
Hams, smoked,	" cwt.	0 00	a	8 00	
Lard,	" do.	6 00	a	7 00	
Butter,	" lb.	10	a	13	
Eggs,	" doz.	12	a	15	
Chickens,	"	12	a	18	
Turkeys,	"	37	a	50	
VEGETABLES—					
Potatoes,	" bu.	25	a	28	
Turnips,	" bu.	25	a	31	
Onions,	" bu.	31	a	37	
Parsnips,	" bu.	37	a	—	

LIST OF AGENTS.

ILLINOIS.

Albion, J. Bessenden
Augusta, Joel Catlin
Aurora, I. Pillsbury
Abingdon, J. Mack
Alton, Richard Kerr
Athens, John Vial
Belleville, Jas. M Reynolds
Bloomfield, Jas. Van Fleet
Bluffdale, John Russell
Bloomington, J. R. Temple
Bethel, W. D. Chinery
Belmont, A. W. Hope
Blue mound, R. Mitchell
Bainbridge, W. T. Turnes
Benton, W. S. Aiken
Brighton, A. A Hilliard
Bloomingville, A. Turnbull
Belvidere, O. Bushnell
Berlin, H G Bowers
Brownsville, Mr Brush
Bunker Hill, Saml Davis
Burton, Wm Richards
Canton, J. J. McGraw
Carlinville, Col. Post
Chester, W. McGinnis
Clayton, B M Campbell
Clinton, Mr Barnes
Canalton, Wm Yates
Carthage, Val. Wilson
Collinsville, T P Hoxey
Chesterfield, Horace Loomis
Cross Meadow, Mr Barnes
Columbia, E T Morgan
Charleston, Jas Woolsey
Cold Brook, Peter Butler
Carmi, Daniel Hoy
Concord, P Schumuh
Carlisle, Mr Woolsey
Collinsville, Horace Loek
Como, S P Reed
Canalton, John T Gilmer
Dayton, James Waters
Delaware, B Saunders
Dixon, Charles A Lane
Danville, Hon Asa L Ridley
Dimmeston R Kingford
Decatur, H M Gorin
Equality, John Reynolds
Elkhides, J W Pearson
Evanston, Thos Tay
Fairville, L D Ellis
Lizabeth Town, Jos Steel
Eagle pt., L Solomon
Exeter, Jas Gilliam
Fairfield, J S Smart
Fountain Green, L Prentiss
Freeport, J A Clark
Greenbriar, Thos Smith
Green River, P K Hanna
Geneseo, J M Allen
Galesburg, Mr Bull
Gaium, L Greene
Greggsville, A Pierce
Galesville, George Hodge
Go neille, Ralph Ware
Geneva, Elisha Hill
Georgetown, David Purnell
Greenbush, S G Moses
Greenfield, R. Washington
Greenville, W. S Weir
Hanton, A H Ayres
Harrisonville, M F Horine
Highland, J H Gresham
Hennepin, John Hart
Hebron, C Holmes
Iroquois, A M Goodnow
Jordan's prairie, A Andrews
Jacksonville, Thos Cummings
Jerseyville, Mr Jones, cash.
Jonesboro, Wm. Davis
Kaskaskia, Mr Banks
Knoxville, H J Runkle
Kickapoo, G W Lee
Lawrenceville, J G Allender
Lebanon, Lyman Adams
Lena, John C Weed
Lamotte, H Brown
Louisville, S B Jones
Lewiston, Newton Walker
Little York, H Brownlee
Lacon, Lanman & Perry
Marshalville, John Blackwell
Millersburg, H W Thornton
Meadow, Erastus Benton
Marshall, Edward Cole
Maysville, Seth Evans
Mount's prairie, H Williams
Mount Pleasant, P S Casey
Magnolia, De Gayford
Moscheeler, Robert Houston
Mills prairie, H J Mills
Monmouth, D McNeil

The Union Agriculturist,

AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

VOL. I, CHICAGO, APRIL, 1841. NO. 4

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, EDITED BY THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, THE ORGAN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TERMS.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance*. Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid*. Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1,50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance*. Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE.—In the March No. of the Albany Cultivator, we observe a letter from Mr. James M. Garnett of Virginia, to our friend Solon Robinson, Esq., recommending the following plan to commence this great enterprise. Let some friend to the object, "obtain a written promise from an intelligent farmer of good reputation as such," to attend at Washington to aid in the organization of such a society, provided one hundred others will give similar promises—the pledges to be sent to MR. ELLSWORTH, Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C. If any one is very desirous to be present, we suppose he need not wait to be called upon, but may himself send his name.

If this Society is to be organized, we have a little State pride that Illinois should aid in it, and she doubtless will. Who of our farmers will go?

Should there be a hundred names sent in, the meeting is to be held during the extra session of Congress, which commences on the 31st May. Notice will be given through the papers. If any citizens of the West can make it convenient to attend, they should not delay sending their names.

THE FARMER'S CONTRACT.—When the editorial duties were assumed, we understood it to be a part of the contract on the part of the farmers—and with us a very important part, that they should furnish the material to make the paper useful; and unless performed, many a subscriber will have to regret his folly in giving a dollar for such a miserable abortion as the Union Agriculturist. We would not insinuate that as yet there is any failure, for the present No. is positive proof to the contrary. They have furnished more than three pages of excellent matter, and if the number is uninteresting the fault is not theirs. But some things it is best to "keep before the people;" and although more communications have been received than could be inserted in this number—most of them practical and such as it is unpleasant to delay publishing—yet the best of men are liable to grow weary in well-doing; and we fear when the novelty of the paper is somewhat worn off, some of our now zealous friends will think we can get along without their aid. It seems to us important that a surplus of communications be furnished, that selections may be made to give variety; and should the paper be enlarged, another page or two of communications will be required.

Farmers, if you would have an edifice erected of which the West need not be ashamed, you must *at least* provide the foundation and the material for the super-structure. A paper can be furnished by the West that will bear comparison with any other; for a class of farmers, so intelligent—so well qualified to make their paper interesting, cannot be found elsewhere. There is no flattery in this—we have never heard the fact questioned.

NEW YORK AND ILLINOIS.—Upon comparing the statistics of these two States for 1839, obtained in taking the U. S. census, we find in agricultural products, the Suckers will bear a comparison with the Empire State, much better than we had supposed. The population of Illinois is not one-fifth that of New York.

		New York.	*Illinois.*
Wheat,	bush.	11,853,507	3,263,552
Corn,	"	11,085,142	22,523,635
Wool,	lbs.	14,073,134	634,349
Tobacco,	"	6,567	475,250
Sugar,	"	10,093,991	399,713
Sheep,		5,381,225	486,751
Horses & Mules,		476,115	200,741
Swine,		1,916,953	1,445,925

The way the Suckers throw out the corn is the right way; and is a sure indication that pork and beef are to be the great articles of export. In the products of the dairy, N. Y. is of course far in advance of us, as well as in most of the minor productions of the soil. Every one will notice the small yield of wool of the sheep of Illinois compared with those of N. Y. In the latter, the average of the fleece is nearly 2 lb. 18 oz., while with us it is less than 1 lb. 5 oz. We have a poor breed compared with N. Y., or else we have not learnt to take care of sheep. Let us have a few importations like the recent one by Col. Oakley, and care taken of the stock on hand, and when another census is completed, it will show superior fleeces to those cut at present.

ENGRAVINGS FOR AGRICULTURAL PAPERS.—"Those living in glass houses should not throw stones." We prefer quoting this proverb, to having it cast back upon us in reply to our queries or criticisms. Not having had the pleasure of seeing any of the "double refined" Berkshires, as sometimes represented on paper, we would ask of the NEW GENESEE FARMER, if the engravings of the breed of—(hogs is really too democratic a name for them,) be correct, perfect likenesses, legs and all. We have seen a delicate foot and well turned ankle (though *very* seldom,) appended to another object, when we thought it far from being a detraction to beauty; but if the Eastern hogs are as they are represented in most of the agricultural publications, they will never stand a journey of one or three hundred miles to market; and it is folly for Suckers, Hoosiers, Woolverines, or Badgers to think of further importations.

Engravings are of no manner of use, unless furnishing a correct likeness; and if the engravings given lately in the Albany Cultivator, New Genessee Farmer, Cin. West. Far. and Gard., etc., are indeed faithful representations, the brute creation is attaining a height of refinement, we supposed it incapable of. Man, as lords of creation, will soon have to "knock under" in figure and carriage, if nothing more.

"AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.—Our neighbors in the Northern counties of Illinois, are awake to the interests of agricultural societies. Arrangements are made for holding meetings in the different counties, and much of the right spirit seems to be manifested. Among the various objects had in view, the production of beet sugar and the raising of the mulberry and manufacture of silk are receiving attention.

"We earnestly hope the citizens of this territory will not remain long behind their neighbors in Illinois. The time we trust is not far distant, when Wisconsin will not only have its Territorial agricultural society, but an auxiliary in every county—besides, support a paper entirely devoted to the interests of the all important subject of agriculture."

Friends of the U. A. S., let the above extract from the Southport Telegraph, prove true to the letter. Our Society may be made to this district, and to the West, all its most sanguine friends have anticipated; if those who should feel an interest in it, only do what can be reasonably required of them. The organization of the auxiliary society in each county, we look upon as the first and most important step.

We hope our neighbors in the Territory, will also feel the importance of such societies and soon have them in effective operation; but as to the establishment of another paper at present, we pray you *mercy*. The editor is pleased to recommend the Union Agriculturist to his friends in another column, and from the flattering testimonials we have received from various parts of the Territory, we supposed it would meet with a pretty general circulation there. We ask, ere another is established, the cost may be counted; and let it be decided whether it is not best to make one valuable, rather than have several good for little or nothing.

The question has been asked many times, if the engraving of "Black Hawk" on our last page is correct. We reply it is in the main; though in our opinion the body is a little too long, and the legs rather slender; the artist having seen some of the Eastern engravings, he imitated them a little too much. But before the insertion of the cut in the paper, farmers from the country who had seen the boar, recognised the likeness at once.

SCALD YOUR LOCUST SEED.—Pour on boiling water, and let it stand a few hours. Then take out the swolen seeds for planting, and pour on boiling water again. The seed will not sprout without this process if sown in the spring.

MR. CHILDS, our Engraver, desires us to say, that the Engravings of the new Leicester Sheep, and the seven Engravings of cattle heretofore prepared for this paper, have all been on type-metal. He could get no boxwood. In the spring he will have a supply, when he will give better specimens of his skill as an artist.

THE LARD LAMP.—It a mistake that the wick is carried through copper tubes. Messrs. FARNSWORTH & STONE of this city have them for sale and prepare them, by running a small copper tube through the top of the lamp alongside of the tube conducting the wick to which it is soldered, and extending into the lamp as far as the lard should be melted. It is a most excellent invention, saving considerable expense. Glass lamps may be used as well as metal ones.

MANURING PRAIRIE.—Several farmers have spoken of the great benefits of using manures, even on our rich prairies; and the remarks of Mr. Churchill and Dr. Thomas are quite seasonable. It is a great mistake that prairie soil is susceptible of, and needs no improvement.—Though not generally necessary to enrich the prairies, manuring gives warmth and vitality to the soil that is much needed, and greatly quickens vegetation.

Farmers should send their facts and compare notes on this subject. Let them be short.

SET OUT TREES.—There is great diversity of opinion as to the best season of the year to transplant trees. We have always done it in the spring, and those who prefer this season, should delay the work no longer. Some of our readers may have placed as many trees in their door-yards as they wish; but all of you have lines of fences that are permanent, where shade or fruit trees could be set to the best advantage. We most earnestly desire every reader to consider how little is the labor compared with the benefits. Rows of trees, besides adding to the permanent beauty of a prairie farm, as nothing else can, will be of great benefit in protecting it from our strong winds.—Will you not spend one, two or three days of April in this work? Ten years hence you will say no labor has been more profitable.

SETTING HENS.—If your hens or cocks have not been changed within a few years, you should procure eggs to set your hens from your neighbor who has the largest and best fowls. Breeding in-and-in is as deteriorating to fowls, as to animals.

CASTOR OIL BEAN.—We hear inquiries for the Palma Christi. Those having seed for sale should advertise them, or send them to the U. A. S. Seed Repository for sale.

WHITE CLOVER.—Farnsworth & Stone of this city still have a little White Clover Seed for sale at $1 per lb. Those keeping bees should not fail to sow some.

ENGRAVINGS.—Probably many persons can procure drawings of their animals which they would like to have inserted in the paper. We will obtain engravings which shall be fac-similes, occupying two columns—of hogs for four dollars, and of other animals for five dollars, sent in advance, giving them one insertion, with a short description. Such an insertion would answer every purpose of an advertisement; but we wish to encourage exhibition of good stock, and stimulate farmers to procure it by every possible means, and therefore make this offer, though it may perhaps curtail our advertisements.

NOTES FOR THE MONTH.—Old farmers would not thank a numskull for giving his directions for their work for the month, otherwise we might, *a la mode*, tell them to do this thing and that; or we might insert extracts from other papers, were they not always a month too late. Perhaps there are those having experience, who would be willing to furnish notes regularly. They will be most acceptable. We would suggest, that to give greater force to the advice, the author head it: *Thus do I.* Let them be *short*, SHORT, SHORT.

DURHAM BULL "GREAT WESTERN."—MR. A. Jones chronicles in the Mo. Republican, the importation of this full blood bull by Messrs. White & Evans. He is three years old, and weighs 1900 lbs. It is supposed his weight will be increased to 4000 lbs. Success to our neighbors in Missouri, in all such enterprises.

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS TO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.—The New York State Ag. Society, has resolved to petition the Legislature for an appropriation of $7000, of which $600 is to be given to the State Society, and the remainder divided among the County Societies in a given ratio, upon their raising as much more. This is what should be done in every State; and should there be an extra Session of the Legislature of Illinois, of which there is some prospect, as soon as it is definitely determined upon, we shall print a petition to the Legislature for a similiar appropriation, and send a copy to each of our agents, and to other friends of agriculture, whose names may be furnished. They will see the petitions are circulated for signatures, and forwarded to their Representatives.

COMPETITION FOREVER.—J. D. Caton, Esq. writes us he would like to see a prize offered for the best quarter of an acre of the Sugar-beet; and proposes that all who wish to become competitors for one, send in their names and $1 by the 15th May; and that they keep an exact account of the expense and mode of culture, to be furnished for publication. Were there fifty competitors scattered throughout the West, their experiments would throw much light on the culture of this root.

Let no farmer refuse to enter the lists for fear of too much competition. It is true one's chance for victory is not so great with forty or fifty opponents as with five; but if successful, the honor is proportionably increased. He who is undecided may be successful; and at least as a citizen of the West, which such experiments will so much benefit, he should be willing to assist in procuring them. In the next No. we will give the names and residence of those who may have sent in their names (*post-paid*) and dollar; and as many would be like to add their names after that No. is issued on the 1st May, if we should thee be able to publish a goodly number, we hope every one who can will send his name soon.

Should the competitors number over ten—or perhaps twenty—we would propose that the money received from others be used for the purchase of agricultural works for the U. A. S. Some are necessary to the well conducting of the paper; and it cannot be expected the editor will work for nothing, "find himself," and be at any great expense in procuring books.—This, however, a majority of the competitors shall decide. In sending their names they will please state to what amount the prize money should run.

The amount agreed upon will be used in purchasing such agricultural works as the winner shall desire; which, with a bound Vol. of the Union Agriculturist, to be given in addition, will be suitably stamped on the cover.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Union Agriculturist.

ELGIN, Ill., March 15th, 1841.

SILK CULTURE NO. III.

Mr. Editor,—Having made up our minds to become silk growers, our first care should be to provide food for the worms. For this we must look to the Mulberry. I have already indicated the kinds esteemed best for this purpose. Let the white Italian, the Broussa, the Alpine and other hardy varieties be cultivated as standard trees, to shade and ornament yards and avenues, field enclosures and the wayside, and contribute as they may to the interests of the magnanery; but for early, continued and profitable feeding I would rely chiefly on the *Multicaulis patch.*

THE SITUATION, when practicable, should be elevated, dry, and *not* have a Southern exposure.

THE SOIL should be sandy, loamy or gravelly, not strong, and having a leachy sub-soil.

THE PLANTING and cultivation is much the same as would be requisite in perfecting a crop of Indian corn. Plough deep, and furrow both ways—so that the trees may stand eight feet apart one way, and four feet the other. Plant in April or early in May. The above remarks apply to permanent plantations.

When a person has but few trees and wishes to increase them, he should manage differently. Prepare the ground as for beds in the kitchen garden, mark it out with a wheelbarrow or some other convenient thing, in rows running North and South two or three feet apart—then with a sharp knife divide the trees into cuttings of three or four inches in length, having one or two buds, and drop them into a vessel containing water. A tree worth a shilling will make 25 to 50 cuttings. Set them a foot apart in the row. A trowel is the most convenient tool for the purpose—set the cutting so that the lower end shall be two or three inches below the surface of the ground, and the upper end, half an inch—press the earth on the lower part with the foot—a man and boy will easily plant 2000 in a day. Plant about the first of May. Great care is necessary at the first weeding that the cutting be not disturbed—after it is well rooted, use the plough, cultivate and hoe as among corn. In the fall, turn out the trees with a plough, and pack them in dry sand in a cool cellar—or they may be kept equally well in the field, by packing and covering with sand on a dry spot. In the spring, remove them to the mulberry field, where they are permanently to remain.

A fair estimate of increase, take one year with another, is about twenty for one, with skilful management—25 good trees may thus be increased to 500 the first year, and the product to 10,000 the second; furnishing food for 3,000 worms the first season, 50,000 the 2nd, and 150,000 the 3d. These are not *paper* calculations *merely*—they are the results of my own experiments. They show that the business is within the reach of every one.

My trees which have stood out through the winter, are in fine condition, notwithstanding the intense cold, the temperature having been frequently as low as 20 degrees of F. below 0, and once down to 32 degrees.

Very Respectfully, B. TRUESDELL.

For the Union Agriculturist.

BLACKBERRY, Kane Co. Ill., Feb. 26, 1841.

USEFULNESS OF THE PAPER.

Mr. Editor,—Dear Sir; I have become a subscriber to the Agriculturist for the purpose of obtaining practical & general information; & also to furnish my sons the means of obtaining useful knowledge in the science of Agriculture in the West; and if I may judge from the Nos. that we have received, what will be likely to follow, I think the Agriculturist will furnish ample means for the above object. I have heretofore calculated to be a pupil, and that only, in this important and interesting agricultural school, not having the most distant idea of attempting to furnish essays for its columns or the public eye. But I have been induced to change my purpose—first by the appeals of the editor to the small farmer as well as the great—to the common as well as the literary, and further by the offer that he will take the trouble to correct errors and prepare imperfect productions for the press—and secondly by the interest I feel for general improvement in the most important and honorable vocation of life—agriculture;—and that the mind may be so improved, that the duties of the farmer may be changed from what has been considered in some ages and places rather degrading and a task, into pleasurable employment. Hence should I hereafter find any thing in my practice on my little farm worthy a place in the columns of the Prairie Farmer I shall cheerfully forward it. But I will not promise much, as my capital, (lent me for the time being,) consists principally in my two hands and those of seven sons three years of age and upwards.

IMPROVED STOCK.—I, however, had last fall a little accession to my common stock. My friends at the East have intrusted me with three most beautiful Berkshire Pigs, full bloods, (I probably shall have some pigs to part with in the spring,)—and also three short horn Durham Cattle, two of which are full bloods. I may give you their Pedigrees hereafter; and I have a few thousand of the genuine Morus Multicaulis Trees and intend feeding worms the coming season.

MILLET.—We have a short communication or extract on the subject of Millet in the Feb. No. What is the price of the seed per bushel, and how much does it require to stock an acre?

BEET SUGAR.—There is one also on the subject of Manufacturing Sugar from the beet. This I believe will be of vast importance to Illinois, provided the process of manufacturing the Sugar can be made simple and easy—I will give you a few remarks made by the editors of the Albany Cultivator on this subject, which may be found on Page 167—Vol. 7. The editors say, the most simple process we have yet noticed is the following, as described by a farmer of Genesee Co. He took about five bushels of white and yellow beets to a cider mill, ground and pressed from them a barrel of juice. This he treated as so much maple sap, by boiling and cleansing, and it yielded about twenty pounds of good Sugar. If the above process should be found to work well, it will reduce the rather intricate and pestering modes now in use, into plain sailing in the manufacturing Sugar from the beet; and Illinois farmers may yet become a sweet people.

D. WHEELER.

NOTE.—We are at a loss in what light to consider Mr. W's. allusion to our offer to make any slight alterations that might be necessary in communications. Many other able correspondents make similar allusions. We dislike to take them as sarcastic cuts at our arrogant offer; and we are unable to give any one the credit of possessing so much modesty, as to suppose such communications were to be improved by us.

The price of Millet we cannot ascertain, and know of none in this city. An article upon it will be found on another page.

We would ask of those having experience with the sugar beet, if it could not be taken to a mill late in the fall, & after expressing the juice, pack away the pulp for stock-feed through the winter. Would it ferment so much as to spoil it, if it were not permitted to freeze; or could it not be frozen, in layers say a foot thick, and then broken up and thawed out by steam, as it would be required? If this could be done, the diminution of the amount of sugar obtained from a crop by this process would be no object.

For the Union Agriculturist.

LONG GROVE, La Salle Co. Ills., Feb. 1841.

Mr. Editor,—The first and second numbers of the Union Agriculturist have come to hand, and I accept them, according to your notification, as an acknowledgment that you have received my subscription in advance. Your resolution to fill up no orders unless backed by the fee in anticipation of the whole, is in my humble opinion excellent. It would be a first rate plan if Editors throughout the Union, without exception, would all abide by it unceasingly. The Age is characterized by a thirst for knowledge and for news, and for the reason that our power is increased by the former, and our Athenian love of novelty gratified by the latter: if then power be desirable, and to be gratified be to contribute to our happiness, those who minister to our acquisition of these things ought to be adequately and universally remunerated for their pains, and that too in all cases in advance. I say especially in advance, because knowledge and news are things which when once proclaimed, become the common stock of the world; effects which cannot be distrained upon for the arrears of pay. And furthermore, unfortunately mankind are so selfish—so inconsiderate—in fact so dishonest, that unless editors make them pay first, they stand but a sorry chance of collecting their outstanding dues by printed appeals to the honor and honesty of men. I speak feelingly on this subject, Mr. Editor, because I have felt the evils of the credit system in literary matters to a considerable extent. If then you will consent to forego the vain show of a long subscription list, nomnis umbra et præterea nihil, comply with no request, on any pretence whatever, to forward your paper unless the dollar be sent you in advance. Your list will then be certain, and the stability of the Union Agriculturist sure.

(We would add, *provided* we had subscribers.—*Ed.*)

Fencing and Land-Pikes.—I am glad to see that the subject of fencing has thus early arrested your attention. Some cheap and durable field divisions must be hit upon, or I am afraid our successors, if not we ourselves, will be much put to it "to warrant and defend," the meum et tuum—*the mine and thine*—which our lands produce. Much timber might be saved even now, if farmers would consent to keep no more *land-pikes* and *prairie breakers* than they can feed in their own pastures. Two thirds of those grunting animals, miscalled hogs, which now prowl about the fences looking out for gaps, might be dispensed with, if it be true (as doubtless it is) that the food given, or doled out rather, to three voracious pikes, if bestowed upon one genuine hog with judgment, would make more pork when ready to kill than the whole put together; and consequently would be more profitable to the farmer in every view of the case. Well, then, I say if they would keep only as many as they could provide for respectably within their own pastures, there would be no hog-nuisance—feelings among neighbors, and the fields could be fenced with posts and rails, which would be a saving of at least half the timber at present consumed. The appearance of things, too, would be improved; for the heavy, unsightly, worm fence is no ornament to the country at best.

The Chinese System.—France is a prairie country, and so is China. "In the maritime provinces of China," says Malte Brun, "no large forest is to be seen in the plains, but several on the mountains. There are some of immense extent in the Western part of the country. Pines and birches are very common. The weeping willow, the Indian fig, the Thuia Orientalis or Arbor Vitæ, the Hibiscus Mutabilis and several other trees and shrubs form little groves, or grow detached in places not subjected to agriculture." In another place he says, "the animals employed for agricultural labor and for carriage, as well as those intended for food, are generally kept in stables, and the fodder is collected for them." And again he remarks, "the manner in which the dwellings of the peasantry are disposed contributes to the flourishing state of agriculture. They are not collected in villages, but all dispersed. *They use no fences nor gates*, nor any precautions against wild animals or thieves." Yet the Chinese rear all the domestic animals of Europe, though compared with American farmers, in much smaller number. From these extracts it would seem that the Chinese soil their cattle for the purpose of augmenting the quantity of manure, and in so doing render gates and fences almost superfluous. Indeed, I perceive that the above named geographer observes, that "no substance susceptible of putrifaction, escapes the patient industry of the inhabitants in the preparation of manure; and the different expedients to which they have recourse for the collection and improvement of that valuable article are numerous." Surely some useful ideas may be deduced by American farmers, from the economy and practice of these agricultural Chinese. They may be barbarians, but in many things, I fear, both of an ethical and domestic nature, even barbarians may put the population of this Western country to the blush.

In France, the area of the country contains 128,000,000 of acres, of which only 17,500,000 acres are in woods and plantations of trees.—Wooden fences, therefore, are out of the question; as is likewise the unfarmer-like and slovenly practice of permitting untended droves, flocks and herds, to ramble at their own will and pleasure over the fields and common lands. In this country then, as in China, and England to a certain extent, they soil their cattle, and thus collect mountains of pabulum vegetabilum—of the food of vegetables, commonly called

Manure.—But the Illinois farmer turns up his nose at the mention of manure. His land is too rich already, and needs no manuring; besides that, it is too expensive to hire a man to haul it on his field. We burn our straw as a nuisance, and would prefer rather that wheat should find its way into our barns unincumbered by straw, for which we have neither favor nor affection! But, Mr. Editor, though no prophet nor the son of a prophet, I would venture to affirm that the time will come, even in this fertile region, when men will pray for straw and will not get it. That is, if they do not change their system, their lands will become so impoverished, that their starved plants will not be worth the reaping. But farmers may be benefitted by manure even now. Let them consider if well manured land will not ripen corn sooner, so as to secure it from the frost, than soil cropped year after year on the plant starving system.

Unity of action necessary.—In relation then to fencing, I consider that the transition to a better system must be gradual; and to be economical and efficient, there must be unanimity among the farmers, and a more scientific rural economy in practice among them. To produce this oneness of action, and this enlightened rurality, (if I may use such a word,) the brains of this agricultural community must be made more plastique—more impressible than at present obtains in general. They have been so long pampered and cajoled by political demagoguery, both whig and loco, that they have really taken up the notion, that they are precisely the Solons, (no allusion, however, to the excellent Solon of Indiana,) their stump orators have told them; and that consequently no one can teach them more than they know already in the art and science of agriculture!—How are these brains of the community—these thinking substances, to be reclaimed from their almost petrous impenetrability? How is their organ of self-esteem to be brought back to a healthy condition? I know of but one remedy, namely, to convince them of ignorance by demonstrating to them what is and may be known. But how can this be effected? By throwing light into their eyes or sound into their ears; that seeing they may perceive, and hearing they may understand, and be healed; that is, Mr. Editor, without a metaphor, circulate good agricultural papers among them, show them what fine animals really are, and lecture them on the liberal arts which are cognate to the cultivation of the soil, the mind, and the raising of stock. If *truth* be the subject matter of these efforts, it will not only illumine their understandings, but conduct farmers into all agricultural propriety, with as much consentaneousness as their mal-practice now proves to exist among them on the other side.

Next let them reduce their *long-legged, long-snouted grunters* to one third their present number; and then as soon as possible supersede this third by the handsome, sleek, and well compacted Berkshires. These are mild, peaceable, and civilized pigs. Their habits are gentlemanly, and their deportment excellent. You hear no fierce snort from them, but only a gentle grunt. They leap no fences, and slip through no six-inch gaps, but are perfectly content with their own pastures if appropriate, and if not, they would die rather than rebel.—Half a dozen such pigs would bring a farmer more pork for market than eighteen or twenty-four slab-siders; and where is the farmer, especially in these times of abundance and low prices, who could not keep at home and within himself such a stock without annoying his neighbor's crops by a drove of common hogs. If such a practice were unanimous, a post and rail fence of three or four rails to the panel would be sufficient for all kinds of field fences. At this stage of improvement, hedges might be planted and trained either on banks, protected by double or single ditches, or upon the level. They would require only pasture fences to protect them from larger cattle. But I must conclude what I have to say just now about fencing, by observing that by *banks* I mean rather *breastworks well sodded*, than such mere ridges as we too often see.

I perceive, Mr. Editor, you have me down on a Committee with Col. Wm. Gooding, as a Committee on Neat Cattle. I was in hopes I had satisfied you that I was not fit for a committee man; and furthermore I am not even a member of the U. A. S., though, if you please, you may put me down for one share. If the President had known me, he would have left me out of the committee as one "not to his satisfaction." Is it not singular that you persist in compelling me to publish my incompetency to the world? Relieve me then of this necessity by substituting some other person of more experience, and you will confer a favor on your well-wisher, JOHN THOMAS.

For the Union Agriculturist.

THE SUGAR BEET—No. II.

Mr. Editor,—Agreeably to my promise, I again improve a little leisure, in calling the attention of the readers of your useful paper, to the subject of making Sugar from the Beet. I am well aware that in this country, popular opinion is at present rather against this branch of manufacture, several establishments having been commenced which have not succeeded satisfactorily. But when it is considered that there has been and still exists, a great want of knowledge of the manufacture, and little or no proper apparatus for carrying it on, surprise need not be excited by the want, in some instances, of success. Indeed no new branch of manufacture has been introduced into this country without meeting in the beginning with similar discouragements. Witness the introduction of manufacturing cotton, glass, cutlery, silk and woollens. But no impediments have yet been encountered in making sugar from the beet, which experience and perseverance may not surmount.

The Beet and Cane compared.—It is my design in this article to take a view of the comparative advantages attending the culture and manufacture of sugar, from the beet and the cane. The sugar cane being of the family of grasses, and sending out numerous spreading roots, stiffens and binds the soil, and leaves it in an unfavorable state for a succeeding crop. It exhausts the soil so much, that fallowing or rest is indispensable about half the time on common soil. Statments from different individuals, and committees of Agricultural Societies in cane planting States, were made to Congress in 1830, and published in the documents of the House of Representatives, of the Second Session of the 21st Congress, in which it is estimated that the product of sugar from an acre of cane is from 800 to 1000 lbs., under favorable circumstances.

The Agricultural Society of Baton Rouge

qualified their statement as follows: "But sugar cane, on account of its numerous roots and strong vegetating powar, soon wears out the richest soil. Even our alluvial bottoms on the banks of the Mississippi, inferior perhaps to none in the world, planted for about twenty years with cane, are nearly worn out. When, moreover, we recollect the misfortunes of unfavorable seasons, it will be immediately perceived that much remains to be deducted from this calculation of 1000 lbs. per acre. It has been proved above, that the mean annual produce of three and five years, amounted to but six per cent, or 600 lbs. to the acre."

The following was stated by Mr. Thomas Spalding of Sapelo Island, State of Georgia. It was published in the documents above referred to, and is here introduced with all its errors, to show what a cane plantor says about making sugar from beets. "The saccharine properties of beets began to attract attention about the time that St. Domingo, the greatest sugar colony belonging to Europe, was convulsed with insurrection. Louisiana, a neglected province of Spain, was acquired by the United States, just when Buonaparte, abandoning the hope of foreign colonies, determined that France should produce within herself, all that France might require. His mighty mind was directed to this end. Sugar had been considered in Europe for ceaturies, by old and young, by rich and poor, a necessary of life. He drew the attention of the French to the manufacture of sugar from beets with zeal and power. Count Chaptal brought all his science to the labor. Marshall Marmont, the Duke of Ragusa, with many other distinguished favorites, brought all their wealth to the enterprise. Well, after twenty years effort the result is, that France produced in the last statements I have received, five millions of lbs. of sugar. The beet yields but 3½ per cent of sweets, while the cane yields at least 10 per cent. We owe the introduction of the Hydrometer and Thermometer in the manufacture of raw sugar, to the French Chemists—but there our obligations end." Mr. Spalding's estimate of the amount of saccharine in the beet, conflicts seriously with the analysis of all chemists, and the testimony of all manufacturers. The amount of saccharine in the beet is uniformly reported at from 105 to 123 thousandths; and the amount actually obtained by different manufacturers in Prussia and Germany, and in this country, as stated by Mr. Child of Northampton, has been from 7½ to 9½ per cent. The Duke of Ragusa, with most of the other distinguished manufacturers in France, had commenced no operations of the kind while Buonaparte was alive.

The amount of land, tilled in cane by one hand, varies from one to five acres. In the British and French West Indies, where the labor is performed more by hand, from one to one and a half acres is all that a slave has been required to till and tend; in Louisiana from four to five acres. Mr. Spalding, who has been engaged in sugar planting twenty years, in the communication before mentioned holds the following language—"I conceive the negroes of Louisiana are too severely worked; there are too many men on their plantations, and so far as I know, they were declining in numbers and sinking in strength. When the culture of cane is confined to two acres of land to a hand, with some accompanying crop, the negroes unquestionably prefer it to any culture in the country." The cane, it will be borne in mind, in coming to maturity requires about nine months, the beet from three to four. It is allowed by those experienced in the beet culture, that one hand will cultivate easily six acres, this being done in three months is twice the amount cultivated in half the time.

Let us now hear the testimony of some of the distinguished French manufacturers. In statements published in 1822, Count Chaptal reports as the product of his operations 803 lbs. of sugar per acre of beets; the Duke of Ragusa, 825 lbs., and Mr. Crespel, 1003 lbs. Mr. Craspel, in testifying before a committee, of the Chamber of Deputies in 1837, on the subject, states as follows: "The culture of the beet has increased ramarkably the value of real estate. He purchased, at the rate of $152 per acre, some lands which were let at $3,80 per anre. Since he had cultivated these lands with beets in a rotation of crops, the number of sheep kept thereon had doubled, and the neat stock had trebled—the rents of leasehold property had doubled where the land was of middleg quality, and in some cases they had quadrupled—that his product of sugar at that time was 1500 lbs per acre." Mr. Spinoux of the Department of Somme, on the same occasion testified, "That when he took possession of his farm of 350 acres, it gave a profit of $855; on annexing a beet sugar factory he obtained a neat profit of $1425." Mr. Ducroquet, before the same committee testified: "That having expended $5000 in cultura and manufacture, he received $9000 for his products; that he had quadrupled his number of sheep, having raised it from 100 badly kept, to 400 fatted for the butcher." It will be observed that the amount of sugar obtained per acre, reported at the later date is much greater than that reported previously, which is attributable to additioeal experience and improvements in the process of manufacturing. Another important consideration is, the beet is a much more sure crop, less liable to be affected by variations of seasons, early freats, &c. This is evident from the uniform advance of the increase of the manufacture, while that of the cane has been very fluctuating, falling off some seasons to less than half the amount of previous years. The following statement of the amount produced in different seasons, of cane sugar in Louisana and of beet sugar in France, is gathered from statistics to be relied upon.

In Louisiana the product in 1828, was	-	-	80,000,000 lbs.
Do.	do.	1829,	45,000,000 do.
Do.	do.	1835,	86,000,000 do.
Do.	do.	1836,	11,000,000 do.
In France in 1832-3,	-		22,000,000 do.
Ditto 1833-4,	-		33,000,000 do.
Ditto 1834-5,	-		44,000,000 do.
Ditto 1835-6,	-		66,000,000 do.
Ditto 1836-7,	-		107,000,000 do.
Ditto 1837-8,	-		122,000,000 do.

When thera is taken into the account with the above considerations, the deepening and mellowing effect of the beet crop upon the soil—its value in rotation as a preparatory crop for grain—the food it affords for stock, and the amount of animal and vegetable manure it adds to the land, every intelligent person must admit, that should the product stated by manufacturers of beet sugar be realized, or even much less than that, our sweetening may be produced from our owe soil, much more easily and profitably than we can, by growing wheat at fifty cents per bushel, procure it from the cane planters of the South.

JAMES T. GIFFORD.

For the Union Agriculturist.

CANADA THISTLE.

Mr. Editor,—As the columns of your valuable paper, are open for any subject that is of advantage to the interest of the farmer, there is one subject which appears to me to be of much importance, that, I believe is but little thought of yet in this country; i.e. the Canada Thistle. I do not know as they have yet made their appearance among us; and perhaps some may say, it will be time enough to be trouhled about them when they make their appearance; but all know that they are generally introduced into a new country with the grass seed: and when they once get root, they spread with astonishing rapidity and almost defy the art of man to eradicate them; and it is easier to prevent their introduction, than it is to destroy them when once introduced.

I would advise every farmer, as well as merchants and others who deal in grass seeds, to examine it, and if there is the least particle of the seed of that detestable weed, not to buy it at any price; for a farmer who sows that seed will not only ruin his own farm, but also that of his neighbours.

Yours Respectfully.
JOSEPH VIAL.

GOSHEN, Cook Co., Ill., March 15, 1841.

NOTE—In the march No. of the Albany Cultivator, is an article complaining of this pest of the farmer, showing the difficulties of eradicating it. It may be said of the Canada Thistle emphatically, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

For the Union Agriculturist.

CHICAGO, March 18th, 1841.

INDIAN CORN.

Mr. Editor,—Sir, Having been frequently requested to contribute any information I might possess for the benefit of the agricultural community, I ayail myself of an hour's leisure to comply.

Some years since while residing at Galena, I was informed by several farmers that they had not been able to obtain any variety of Indian Corn which was large and early enough. The Boles corn, (so called, hy its having been first introduced into the country by a man of that name,) was a small short eared early variety, deep grained and of a palo yallow color. It matured about as early as the variety cultivated by the Indians called "Squaw corn;" but did not yield enough to satisfy the expectation of the farmer. About that time (1829,) Lewis Curtis, the cultivator of a small farm 10 miles North of Galena, tried an experiment which was entirely successful. A short time before that period, a large variety of corn had been brought to the Mines from a Mr. Cleavland's, 20 miles North of Peoria, Ill.; and though it grew thriftily but a small portion of it matured before it was stricken by the frost. The object of Mr. Curtis was to increase the size of the Boles corn, and accelerate the maturity of the Cleaveland variety by a cross between them; & for that purpose prepared his ground in good order, and chequred it out for planting, and planted his field thus prepared in alternate rows with the Boles and Cleaveland corn, and cultivated it well. In the latter part of August, when the outside rind of the husk first begae to indicate approaching maturity, he went through his field with a basket, and selected from the rows successively the largest and most forward ears, which he saved for seed to plant the oneuing season. This same process of selecting the seed from the growing crop for each succeding year, was kept up for three years; when it was discovered the variety thus produced, was three fourths the size of the Cleaveland, and as early as the orginal Boles corn. A popular opinion has been long entertained, that seed corn saved while the milk was in the grain would not vegetate and produce its like again; but Mr. Curtis' experiment has falsified this theory; for he always selected his seed ears before the milk was dried in, until he perfected the experiment. Seed corn should always be seasonably selected from the standing stock in the field and kept in a situation secured from the frost; as corn in bulk during seasons of humid weather in the winter will sweat, and when a turn of very cold weather sets in will freeze and destroy the vegetable life of the eye or heart of the corn, from which the shoot proceeds. There is, too, more art in the mode of cultivating corn than is generally supposed—the soil around its roots should be frequently stirred during the growing season; and on level cold land should never be hilled, especially in high latitudes where the seasons are short. In order to insure a rapid growth, which with this crop is always desirable, the roots must be as much exposed, as the safe standing of the corn will permit, to the sunbeams to warm them. The distance of the corners of the squares, where the corn is planted, should be three and a half feet a part, which leaves ample space for the constant use of the one horse plow. In preparing level ground for planting, a ridge, as farmers call it, should be raised by throwing two furrows together; then by closeing these ridges with a shallow furrow, the spot designed for the seed is indicated; and should the early part of the season be ever so wet, the water will settle in the furrows several inches below the seed, and disappear by the combined process of absorption and evaporation.

Yours &c., J. M. STRODE.

For the Union Agriculturist.

MUNROE, Ill., March 18, 1841.

SETTING OUT TREES.

Mr. Wright,—You have mentioned my name in connection with the setting out of trees upon the prairies; which, although I gave you reason for saying what you did may lead others into error.

In the spring of 1838, I set out between three and four hundred locust trees which I had raised from the seed the year before, and 160 Mulberry trees. They were generally planted on unbroken prairie by spading up the turf, and where I could procure it handily, replacing soil that had been partially subdued. But I was then in a commoe error of putting trees in deep to preserve the roots from drought; and out of the four or five hundred, there are not more than twenty alive, and those owe their preservation to being upoe ground sufficiently sloping to carry off any superfluous moisture. In two instances where I put in two poor plants, more for the purpose of getting them out of my way than any thing else, on the top of ant hills, they have done well; while those alongside, that I took every pains with are dead. Hence I think the nearer the surface we place the tree, so as to give it sufficient earth for support, the better; and the earth should be so hilled up around as to carry the reins off quickly.

A friend of mine set out some fruit trees last year on this principle, which however, he discovered himself by experience, and they equaled in growth anything of the kind I ever noticed at the East.

Yours truly, JAS. LONG.

For the Union Agriculturist.

LISBON, Feb. 23, 1841.

SWINE, &c.

Mr. Secretary,—Sir, I noticed a mistake in the Feb. No. of the U. A., given in relation to the Durham Bull which I purchased last season. Instead of being the long-horned, he is of the short-horned Durham Breed. He is now 21 months old and girths 6 feet 3 inches, and is well proportioned, and is called by many Gentlemen who are acquainted with the short-horned Durham Stock, to be equal if not superior to any bull in the Western country.

As to the report which was expected upon Swine, at the meeting of the U. A. S. at Ottowa, by the committee appointed at Naperville for that purpose; my ill health would have prevented any participation in a report to be made at that time, if I had been in possession of the necessary experience. My experience has been confined to the China and Byfield breeds of Swine for fattening, which I consider very profitable breeds compared with the land shark and piko, of which a description has been given in the agricultural papers. I have recently seen some of the Berkshire breed, and was so well pleased with them that I purchased a boar. He is now five months old large and fine.

I give it as my opinion, that the Berkshires are decidedly the best crosses that can be obtained for our native breeds, or any other breeds with which I am acquainted.

The quietness of their disposition renders them favorable for taking on fat readily; on the contrary, a Swine that is uneasy and restless in disposition, will give but a poor return of fat for the amount of food consumed.

If I should remain within the charterad limits of the U. A. S., I would endeavor to procure portraits of the short-horned Durham Bull Naro, and of the Berkshire Boar Plato, to be inserted in the valuable papor of the U. A. S. I consider it of great value to the farmer to have portraits inserted in agricultural papers; for when the outline is given of an animal, a comparison can be immediately instituted by the most common ob-server and a tolerably correct judgment formed with respect to the different animals; and this is the very thing the farmer needs in order to prosperity in agriculture. I Remain Yours in the Success of the U. A. S. LEVI HILLS.

NOTE.—Some one in whom we had confidence stated the bull to be of the long-horned breed, but who it was we have forgotten We were the more inclined to consider the statement as correct, because of his being onturaly red, except a small star in the forehead. We only saw him a few minutes by candle light. Is it proper to say long-horn Durham? Before writing the notice, to which Mr. H. alludes, we examined Youatt and other works, without obtaining information, except that it was not spokon of; but having confidence in the statement given us, we could only suppose the name was given because of a little mixture with some other breed; as we supposed upon subsequent reflection, with the Devon. Another such blunder will *probably* not be made.

We hope Mr. H. will not remove out of the limits of the U. A. S.; but if he should, it need not prevent his furnishing the portraits of Naro and Plato, and giving his experience in raising Swine, with what other information he may possess on the subject.

For the Union Agriculturist.

AVON, Kane Co, Ills., Feb. 24, 1841.

PRAIRIE SOILS, PLOUGHING, &c.

I infer that our prairie soil is, in part, composed of lime and iron among the mineral bases, (if I may be allowed to call lime a mineral,) from the fact that the deposits about nearly all of the numerous springs that are scattered over the prairies, are of that material generally combined. Water standing on the surface of the ground extracts the juices of the decomposing vegetation, which, combining with the oxygen of the atmosphere, forms an acid which is a solvent of these minerals; when this acid comes in contact with any of which it is a solvent, it is saturated with it, and remains in combination until the acid is destroyed; or until the water thus charged comes in contact with some substance, for which the acid has a greater affinity. Evaporation of the water, probably, is the cause of the mineral being left at the place where the water first breaks from the earth, more than at any other place; I, therefore, conclude that the deposit at these springs is a sure indication of their existence, though possibly not on the surface.

I also infer that rich vegetable mould is not as abundant on our prairies as many imagine, from the fact that but a small proportion of the vegetation of the prairies is left to decompose; as it is generally burned before decomposition takes place. A small part is burned to ashes, but by far the greater part is only charred, in which state it is insoluble except by a powerful solvent. This charcoal, or coal dust, may be said to be one form of vegetable mould, but certainly it is the least enriching, unless we can contrive some cheap means by which it can be dissolved.

Lime is one of the best substances that the soil can contain, and iron not the worst, but they are generally conceded to be only valuable in connection with vegetable or animal matter.

Supposing the above to be facts; my advice to the prairie farmer is, that he should not, on account of the *blackness* of his soil, suppose that he has an inexhaustible mine from which to draw continued wealth, in the form of good crops, without care or replenishing; but that he use the natural strength with economy, and replenish with every means in his power.

Deep ploughing, I am satisfied from observation for a number of years, and some experience, is absolutely necessary, if we would husband the soil; for the reason that vegetable and animal substances, the real strength of all soils, decomposing in a situation to be acted upon by the scorching rays of the sue, the moistening effects of the dews and rains, and the continued action of the winds, lose much of their strength by evaporation, whereas deep ploughing would cover the most of these substances; thereby, in a great measure, preventing evaporation; thus saving its strength to

to enrich the soil, rather than leaving it to taint the atmosphere.

I believe that it is generally admitted, that when the earth is loosened so that it can be penetrated by the air, it is generally benefited; either by absorbing hydrogen, of which a small quantity is necessary for every plant, or oxygen as a partial solvent to the vegetable, animal, or mineral substances that the soil may contain; this being the case, the deeper the ploughing, to a certain extent, the more lasting the effect.

Deep ploughing is more necessary on prairie lands, for the reason that it is not loosened by large and extensive roots, as in timber lands, upon the decay of which, the air and the roots of such crops as may be grown upon the land, can penetrate sufficiently deep.

Plants in their physical formation, may be compared to the human body, having means to perform its different functions; as the leaves, to perform the office of the lungs, the flowers for procreation, the roots to select and prepare the food; also means of secreting and emiting perspiration; arterial circulation from the roots to the leaves; veinal circulation from the leaves to the roots. While some of the roots are sent off along the surface of the earth in search of food with which to nourish; others, again, are diving deep in search of moisture, to slacken the greedy thirst of the plant, during the heat of the long summer's day.

All the parts are necessary to the healthy growth of the plant, and it must be placed in a situation where all its offices can be performed with care, to ensure a luxuriant growth. The surface of the soil should not be covered with water by every slight shower, thereby filling the roots that are in search of food with water; neither should the sub-soil be so hard that those that supply the plant with water cannot penetrate to the moist earth; both of which difficulties can, in a measure, be avoided by deep ploughing.

A. CHURCHILL.

For the Union Agriculturist.

PLAN OF A GATE.

Mr. Editor.—The following plan of a gate I take from the Cultivator, vol. vi. p. 103, with some slight alterations to suit my notion:



A A A three posts seven feet high; B and C cross pieces; D D two rollers 4 inches in diameter—they should be cast-iron but wood will answer; E five slats—the bottom one should be 10 or 12 inches wide; F F two cleats large enough to straddle cross piece and receive the roller; G a short post or stake set in the ground by the side of the centre post, and as high as the top of the bottom slat, to keep the gate in place.

To make the gate lay two cleats on the ground the distance apart you wish your gate; then lay on the slats two more cleats over the two first and pin or nail all fast together—the bottom slat should run through the front cleat about two inches—and cut a mortise in the front post to receive it when the gate is shut. To set up the gate, set three posts at equal distances, set one side of the centre post on a line with the centre of the outside posts. Make a mortise in the top of the outside posts three inches deep, and wide enough to receive the cross piece. The cross piece is made in two pieces; piece C is nailed or pined fast to the centre post and runs past it far enough for roller D to rest on it when the gate is open—the under half is cut off so as to admit cross piece B to run to the centre of the post, and is held to its place by a rest. The cross piece should be slightly hollowed out where the rollers rest, to prevent the gate from opening of itself.

I set up three of the above gates last spring, and suffice it to say, they are much admired both for novelty and convenience. They have been examined by many, and not the first objection has been raised. The advantages of this gate over the common kinds are many, among which are: 1st, when open there is no angle for cattle or sheep to run behind; 2nd, they are entirely secure from being stove to pieces by the wind; 3d, time saved in opening and shutting; 4th, they can be opened all times of the year without being obstructed by snow drifts; etc. Yours truly,

PHILO SYLLA.

ELOIN, March 15, 1841.

NOTE.—Mr. S. has our thanks for the above plan and excellent suggestions. Similar communications will meet with a welcome reception.

AMENDMENT OF THE CHARTER.—No amendment was made to the act of Incorporation of the U. A. S. at the recent session of the legislature, the bill that was prepared not having been presented.

For the Union Agriculturist.

NORTHAMPTON, Peoria Co., Ill.
February 25, 1841.

* * * *

You wish me to act as agent. I will do what I can for you in that capacity. On receiving your note, I immediately stirred round a little, and obtained the six subscribers as above. I will endeavor to get more, and as I get them forward their names to you.

As to my employing my pen as a contributor to the columns of the paper, you need not expect much; I shall not hesitate through any feelings of delicacy to make known any fact which I may be in possession of or which may come to my knowledge. We are just commencing in this part of the State, and it need not be expected that we will have much worthy of communication. Critics I care nothing about; it is the plain farmer like myself that can understand plain language such as I must use if I write at all, that I would wish and expect to read and be interested in any thing I might offer.

A Western Paper necessary. I duly appreciate the importance of an agricultural paper printed in the West. The Eastern papers are of little or no value to us. What is truth in one section of the country is not always truth in another. For instance, in the old States where *land* is scarce and high in price, and *labor* is plenty and cheap, he is the best farmer who makes his acre of land produce the most; whilst here, where land is plenty and cheap, and labor is scarce and high, the best policy is that which gives the greatest return for the labor, without reference to the quantity of land employed. Our soil, climate, and almost every thing else, are so different from that in the Eastern States, that any experiments tried there will not be of much benefit to us. It will not be denied, that the Agricultural Societies and papers are doing much in all countries where they receive proper support. And if they are beneficial in those countries where the people have so long had an opportunity of being fully acquainted with all the properties of the soil, and the experience of many generations to direct them in the best mode to cultivate it; how much more are they needed in this country, where we have come together from all parts of the world, with but few of us acquainted with a soil and climate corresponding to this. I would therefore say to every farmer in Illinois, support a paper at home, and let the editor know the result of your observations. By this means only, can we concentrate our opinions and profit by each others experiments. This will aid in placing the farmer on that high eminence for which the God of nature designed him. To be honorably entitled to the name of FARMER is the height of my ambition. With such a distinction I would envy not the "titled great" nor the "purse-proud aristocrat."

In conclusion, I will say that you may depend on my little influence, but do not anticipate too much. Respectfully yours.

SAMUEL T. MCKEAN.

NOTE.—How can we feel otherwise than encouraged, while in the daily receipt of letters as warm as the above. To be sure they are not all as well *lined*; but with a few such friends in each county, the paper *must* succeed, and become the valuable medium of communication between Western farmers, which so many feel to be desirable, and necessary to our general improvement.



A New Leicester Sheep, belonging to Danl. Elston, Esq., of Chicago.—(Fig. 12.)

To the Editor of the Union Agriculturist.

Noticing in your last valuable paper, some observations made by Mr. Webster, subsequent to his travels in England, relative to the New Leicester Sheep, and recommending them to the notice of the American farmer, I am induced to offer a few observations on that particular breed, which may be acceptable to some of your readers—as well as to send you a fac-simile of one of my sheep of the Bakewell or New Leicester breed, the sire of which I imported from England.

It may not be generally known, that in England there are gentlemen eminent graziers, who devote their whole time, attention and fortune to the cultivation and improvement of the various races of animals, until they attain the climax of perfection in the object they prosecute. Among the various professional breeders of modern times, few have attained greater celebrity than the late Mr. Bakewell of Dishley, in Leicestershire, to whom we are indebted for many new and important improvements in the science of rearing cattle; and whose name will be associated with his improved Leicester sheep whilst time endures. The principle which he invariably adopted, was to select the best beast that would weigh most in the valuable joints; so that while he gained in point of shape, he acquired a more hardy breed, and by a strict attention to the kindliness of their skin, he became possessed of a race of animals which was more easily fed and fattened than any other. Mr. Webster has observed that in England there are two principal classes of sheep—the long wooled and the short wooled. It was to the long wooled sheep that Mr. Bakewell gave his particular attention, nor ceased till he attained perfection in the animal, both in the beauty and symmetry of its shape—the quantity and quality of the wool—its extreme aptitude to fatten, laying on flesh in the most valuable parts, at the same time being maintained with the least possible food.

It is to this animal, a sketch of which you have before you, the name of the *New Leicester*, or *Bakewell*, or *Dishley* breed was given; the characteristics of which are: Heads straight, clean and broad, without horns; eyes fine and lively; bones fine and small; pelts thin; bodies round, or barrel-shaped; straight backs; broad chines, with short clean legs—these are the favorite points in this breed, and which contribute so much to the appearance of the animal. The advantages of the breed are, that they are perfectly quiet and docile, and of course more disposed to fatten. Their fleeces are large, averaging eight or ten pounds; and some have been known to carry above twenty pounds. They bear a fine silky fleece, from which the finest worsted and camblets are made in England. They fatten kindly and early, even on the poorest pastures; and are admirably adapted for the market, laying on fat upon the *rump* and *ribs*, which, in Mr. Bakewell's estimation and other eminent judges, is far more important than tallow; and it is no uncommon thing to see a well fed Leicester sheep shew five and six inches thickness of fat on these parts. They are hardy and vigorous, and it is proved, require less food to support and fatten them, than any other breed which attain to the same size at the same age. Lambs at three and four months old will weigh from 15 to 20 lbs. the quarter; the sheep when at maturity from 16 to 20 stone (224 to 280 lbs.) the carcass. In short, it is a breed of sheep that all Western farmers should cultivate, and requires them only to be known to be desired and sought after.

I am your ob't. serv't.,

DANL. ELSTON.

For the Union Agriculturist.

KENDALL COUNTY, March 14th, 1841.

QUERIES ABOUT FENCING.

Mr. Editor,—Giving as you did a general invitation to all who were disposed to write for your paper, I now avail myself of that invitation for the purpose of making inquiries about fences—particularly hedge fence. I wish to know if any one has tried it; if so what plant they use—whether the native thorn or locust. If the thorn, whether they took the roots from the woods, or planted the seed, or set the cuttings. Likewise the amount of labor they bestowed upon it compared with making rail fence. If any one has tried the experiment with success, and will communicate it in this paper, it will be a great benefit to those living on the prairie. Is there any more economical way of making rail fence than the one that you generally find in this country, that is the zigzag fence, which eats up so much timber? If any person who has had experience in fence making, will communicate it through this paper, it will be most gratefully received by

A YOUNG PRAIRIE FARMER.

NOTE.—We know not who "A Young Prairie Farmer" is; but in reply to his P. S., we say queries from him, so judicious and *short*, (a great excellency,) will always be inserted with pleasure. Besides queries, let him send some results of his experience. We doubt not he keeps ample memoranda of his farming operations, and can furnish valuable information, albeit he may be "young."

An English gentleman, Mr. Samuel Brookes of Lake co., who has paid much attention to hedges, having been all his life a gardener and horticulturist, says in a recent letter he can only plead want of time as an excuse for not having sent us an article upon their growth and management. He says he could wish also to wait the result of a trial he is making, of rearing the indigenous thorn from the seeds. The request of our correspondent will doubtless draw from him and others, useful instructions.

For the Union Agriculturist.

BLOOMFIELD, Edgar Co., Ill.
March 16, 1841.

GRAFTING FRUIT TREES.—It is now a proper time to graft fruit trees. The grafts may be cut a few days before setting from the last summer's growth, about one inch below the joint—may be cut any time, but best between the middle of October and the 1st of March, and covered in moist earth until wanted for use. When you commence grafting, you have nothing to do but dig around the root of the tree, in whose root you intend to set—when you find a root half an inch in diameter, cut it loose from its mother and raise the outer end of it a little, so that you can make a split in it about an inch or more from the end—then sharpen the graft just at the joint, with one side a little thicker than the other, and open the split end of the root, and slip the graft therein, with the thin side towards the small end of the root—cover it even with the surface with fine earth, and it will sometimes grow to the height of six feet in one summer.

You may in like manner cut at or a little below the surface, any scion whose root is unconnected with the mother stock, and make a split in its stump, and sharpen your graft in the same way, and open the split and set it in the stump about half an inch below where it is cut; taking care to set your graft so as to cross the bark of the stump, and not perpendicular—the last process perpendicular is so apt to miss taking the sap; but if you set your graft cross or quartering, you cannot miss. You will be careful to cover it with fine earth two or three inches deep, and you may depend on success. I have the honor to be

Very respectfully your obt. servt.

ELISHA HOUTT.

NOTE.—It probably is not too late for many of our readers to avail themselves of Mr. H.'s instructions, if attended to immediately. This process of grafting is new to us, and we are much obliged to Mr. H. for it. He will see the crowded state of our columns and excuse us if the other part of his communication is not inserted immediately. We shall find room for it probably ere long.

EXTRACTS AND COMMENTS.

HON. GEO. CHURCHILL, of Madison co., writes as follows, 23d ult.

"I deem it important that an agricultural journal, adapted to the condition of this State, should be sustained; and as yours appears more likely to command success than either of the others which have been commenced in Illinois, I send you the enclosed."

MR. D. E. HAINES we hope will not be disappointed in his expectations of the good this paper will effect in the West. We are obliged to him for his good wishes and promises of aid. He says—

"FLAX AND HEMP must inevitably receive the attention of the farming public; both being articles of home consumption as well as of exportation." He asks to be informed of the process of water-rotting, and what quantity of flax-seed is required to the acre to produce a fine article. Some of our correspondents will probably furnish instructions for rotting in season. If not we will look them up. The following is from the Complete Farmer:

"The rule for sowing small grains is *reversed*; flax requiring to be sown thickest on rich soil, as not more than one stalk is wasted from a plant. In England and Scotland never less than two, nor more than three bushels to the acre are sown. Two and a half is the most usual portion. In Flaadere and Ireland seldom less than three bushels are sown, except when seed is an object. Thick sowing is to obtain fine flax. In this country it will be important at present to sow at such a rate as will insure good crops of each; and experience only can determine the exact point. It is pro-

bable that six pecks is the least, and two bushels the extent that should be sown to obtain the most profitable results, till the demand for seed is considerably lessened."

Lewis Ellsworth, Esq., desires us to inform Mr. Vial that he accedes to the proposed alteration in the weight of seed of the Rohans, to be planted by them for a prize. Thirty lbs. of seed is now agreed upon. (See Feb. and March Nos.)

J. D. Caton, Esq., says he thinks the experiment would have been more profitable if Messrs. E. and V. had agreed upon a certain amount of land to be cultivated, instead of using a given amount of seed. For his satisfaction, as well as others, we will make a similar proposition for a trial with the Rohan, to that given in another column for the sugar beet. Should any like to enter the lists with Messrs. Ellsworth and Vial, we doubt not they will each of them put up their dollar, as it will not interfere with their own contest; and the results will test its productiveness, both from a given amount of seed, and upon a given amount of land. Competitors, giving their name and residence, will please send in their dollar soon, *post-paid.*

Mr. Daniel Blodget writes from Brighton, Macoupin co., that with the assistance of our *numerous agents*, he had "been enabled to procure the enclosed." There having been more names furnished us to be written to, than we could find time for, we obtained the assistance of a friend. He made some errors in writing to several individuals in a place, requesting them to act as agents, whose aid we wanted as correspondents. This mistake should have been previously noticed. We shall, however, be much obliged to any one who will procure a subscriber; and it is expected all our real friends, whether on the list of agents or not, will do all in their power to aid us in this respect.

Mr. Chas. Woolsey's letter dated at Carlyle, Clinton co., 28th Jan., was not received till the 11th ult. If Mr. W. considered the old series worthy of his patronage, we flatter ourself, that owing to the aid of our numerous correspondents, there is little fear of losing his support now. We hope to hear from him, and his neighbor Rev. Simeon Walker, often.

Mr. E. W. Brewster of Elgin says, (postage unpaid) he claims the honor of having the first litter of full-blood Berkshires ever farrowed in Kane co. The boar and sow "Jim Crow" and 'Coal-Black rose,' are from A. B. Allen's stock. We do not "endorse the practice recommended by" our "Avon correspondent, of having lambs fall as early in the winter as possible"; not having experience. Any subject noticed by a correspondent, we shall remark upon in connexion with the communication, when we know anything about it; in other cases our correspondents will, as they please, confirm each others statements, or tear each other to pieces—always good naturedly, or the communication will find no admittance—without our feeble aid.

He asks, "is it not best on our broad prairies, to sow Swedish turnip seed 'broad-cast'? Mr. Churchill says he raised a good crop in this manner—what is a good crop? I grew fourteen waggon-loads, (30 bushels each,) on half an acre. I planted in drills 3½ feet apart—passed the cultivator through them twice—followed with the hand hoe. Many of them weighed 20 lbs. each."

Mr. J. S. Norton says in his letter upon the Irish Graziers in No. 3, second column and 26th line from the bottom, "ur" should read "on," as the hogs were all across between the Irish, and Russia and Byfield, the Irish blood predominating in nearly the whole number.

Correspondents cannot be too careful in writing, to give a clear manuscript. The communications are all read in connexion with the proof, by which any gross error is avoided; and the proofs are corrected three times. Still errors like the above are unavoidable occasionally, if the copy is not perfectly plain.

Prof. Low's Illustrations.—By the Albany Cultivator, we learn the editors have received the first four Nos. of this splendid folio work, illustrating the breeds of British animals. It is published bi-monthly at a guinea a No., each number containing four engravings. Could we afford it, we should like much to procure it, that copies of the engravings might be given in the Union Agriculturist.

Magazine of Horticulture, published monthly by C. M. Hovey & Co., Boston, at $3 per annum in advance. We have not yet received this work, which is said to be valuable, though daily expecting it.

Silk Publications.—To those entering upon the culture of silk, we would recommend the Journal of the American Silk Society, published monthly at Baltimore, Md., at $2 per annum, each number containing 24 octave pages, stitched in a cover. It contains much practical information, and every friend to the culture of silk should take a copy to aid the enterprise. On the cover it is said "The proceeds devoted to the advancement of the silk cause in the U. S." In the Jan. and Feb. Nos., just received, are several valuable articles which our limits will not permit us to publish. We see in it a letter from B. Whitaker, of Plymouth, Ill.

Five Nos. of the Burlington Silk Record have also come to hand. They contain full descriptions of the Burlington Silk Worm Frame and Filature, invented by Mr. Edmund Morris; and the paper is published principally to introduce them into use, being sent to those who desire it (paying their own postage,) free of charge. We shall endeavor to give in our next, a drawing and description of the Frame. Mr. M. says, he raises and keeps for sale the choicest kinds of silk-worm's eggs. Address him at Burlington, N. J.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST.

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

APRIL, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

John Dean Caton,	of Will Co.,	Pres.
Levi Hills,	" La Salle "	Vice Pres.
Holder Sisson,	" Will "	
Lewis Ellsworth,	" Du Page "	
Jas. T. Gifford,	" Kane "	
Seth Washburn,	" McHenry "	
Wm. B. Ogden,	" Cook "	Treas.
Jno. S. Wright,	" do. "	Rec. Sec.
Do.	" do. "	Cor. Sec.

MEETINGS.

The Union Agricultural Society, will hold a Meeting in CHICAGO, on WEDNESDAY the 28th inst.; at which time business of importance will be transacted, and an address delivered by

SOLON ROBINSON ESQ.

of Lake C. H. Ia. It is expected there will be a full attendance of the members and the friends of agriculture.

Another Meeting will be held at GENEVA, KANE CO., on FRIDAY the 28th MAY at 2 o'clock P. M., when an address will be delivered by

JAMES T. GIFFORD, ESQ.,

The organization of a County Society, auxiliary to the U. A. S., will at that time be considered; and it is for that and other reasons, important that all interested should attend.

The Ladies are particularly invited to attend at the delivery of the addresses.

By order of the President,

J. D. Caton.

John S. Wright, Sec.

☞ Papers in the district please copy.

We begin to think ourself, with many of our correspondents, that the Union Agriculturist is to be made to the Western Farmer exactly what is required. The number of original articles furnished has thus far exceeded our most sanguine anticipations; and if continued, there is no good reason why it should not become the Western farmer's text book. To make it such, it is only necessary for *each* farmer to publish through it his experience; and as some—others besides Mr. Childress—have said the first number or two paid them for their dollar, we would suggest to such, that the dollar only paid us; and that if they would keep a square account, they must remunerate those who have made the paper thus valuable, by sending communications themselves. Be honorable in this as you would in other dealings.

Mr. McKean's allusion to the difference between Eastern and Western tillage is a forcible one, and shows the importance of maintaining and circulating an organ in our midst.

Occasionally a Post-master or other friend writes us that it is difficult for him to procure subscribers, because the Genesee Farmer or Albany Cultivator has occupied the ground before us; and now and then the same thing is said of the Illinois Cultivator. To the latter paper's receiving a most liberal support from the West we do not object, and shall be satisfied if permitted to occupy the ground left vacant by that and other Western papers; but when notice is received that the circulation of our paper is forestalled by foreign publications, we at once conclude there is wrongful neglect or indifference somewhere. While we cheerfully assent to the right possessed by every one of doing what he will with his own, we still believe no one may neglect the duties owed by each to his own neighborhood. A general improvement throughout the country is most easily attained, by each section promoting enterprise and improvement at home. We therefore expect a Western farmer will first aid this or some other paper in his vicinity; and after that, if he is able, and disposed to spend five or ten dollars for agricultural publications, we say, do it—you cannot spend your money more profitably.

But some one may say, "I know nothing about the Union Agricultural Society, or whether its paper will continue or not. I'll wait to see the result before I risk my dollar." Now, friend, suppose every one in the West should adopt your course; do you think the result would be long doubtful? It is most fortunate for us all do *not* think and act thus.

Another says, "Why this paper contains only eight pages; the correspondents are not half as able, as such a paper, and the selections are not worth a cent—I reckon I'll take an Eastern paper a year or two longer; perhaps by that time this may get to be worth patronizing." Again we ask, what if all should do so? Though nearly every Western farmer would acknowledge the importance of sustaining an agricultural paper, peculiarly—exclusively Western, yet so many suppose it unnecessary for *them* to aid it, that the receipts barely pay the expenses of printing and paper. Suppose, reader, that now the Agriculturist is not worth half what an Eastern paper is—though we of course do not "acknowledge the corn"—still, you feel it *can* and *should* be made more interesting and valuable to you than any other. And why should you not do what you can to make it such? why expect others to do what you decline doing? If heretofore you have entertained doubts as to the success of the enterprise, and have been looking on—we will not say with indifference—to see whether it sinks or swims, will you please take the surest way of insuring its success; i. e. send in your subscription, and an article (short) for publication. After each has seen that number one has done his duty, we shall shed no tears if he will induce half a dozen of his neighbors to do the same.

The paper is not yet what it is to be; but we challenge the entire agricultural press, to show another commenced on so liberal a scale, furnishing in the start so much reading at so low a rate. We hope soon the receipts will permit the Society to enlarge it. Even now we are exceedingly crowded for room, and could fill four pages more with valuable matter. The prospect now is an improvement will be made ere long. There would be no doubt about it, if every agent and friend would do his duty.

Female Influence.—There is another error, a fatal error, into which your Society, like their thousand and one predecessors, have fallen.

Vain and foolish man! Hast thou forgotten that thou wert born of woman? Are not the farmers' wives and daughters suitable and proper members of Agricultural Societies?

I hope your Society will take an early opportunity to amend the error. Enlist the female portion of society in your cause—enroll them honorary members. Have a suitable medal, or engraved certificate of membership prepared, that will make them anxious and proud to possess it, and you will soon see the good effects. If they do not take an active part in the business of the association, they will form "a power behind the throne, greater than the throne itself." They will attend your meetings, and listen to your addresses; and they will make such meetings "popular"—and can you effect any good unless they are popular?

In my address, which I hope to have the pleasure of delivering before your Society next month, I shall assume "the gray head's privilege," although it belongs to me more from looks than years, and *lecture* you further upon this subject. And I most earnestly hope that a goodly portion of my hearers will be composed of "man's first and best gift of Heaven." No word shall be heard among the few that I will use on that occasion, to offend the ear of female delicacy. * * * *

Solon Robinson.

We thank Mr. R. for the above judicious remarks, extracted from his letter of the 4th ult. Like most young bachelors, (for being yet on the sunny side of thirty-five, we do not consider ourself obnoxious to that most dismal appellation, *old* bachelor,) we entertain the most exalted opinion of the supremacy and magic influence of female sway. Were the ladies to become interested in the U. A. S., their husbands and sweethearts would not long resist the calls upon their time and money necessary to its prosperity.

In our native county, Berkshire, Mass., the Agricultural Society's cattle show and fair of two day's duration, was always well attended by the ladies, and the Society is one of the most thriving in the U. S. Our judgment as well as gallantry, induces us to attribute its success in a great measure to the interest taken in it by the ladies; and as like causes will produce like results, whether operating in the East or West, (at least in this,) were the ladies within the district of the U. A. S. to feel the same interest in the prosperity of their Society, the beneficial effects would soon be manifested.

It seems to be a good suggestion that the ladies be made honorary members. Those who will attend at the meetings of the Society, should take the subject into consideration, and be prepared to act upon it. If our census returns do show such a woful lack of the "better part," we will engage the members of the U. A. S. will show by their actions, that if the fault is in any degree theirs, it is a negative rather than a positive fault—that they fully appreciate the value of female influence, and only lack opportunity to manifest their high regards *in any manner the occasion may justify.*

Several ladies have said they would gladly attend the meeting here, and we think Mr. R. will "draw a full house." There should be something done to procure the attendance of the ladies at the other meetings. Let each one attending take a lady with him.

White Hall, St. Joseph Co., Ia.
March 11, 1841.

Editor of the Union Agriculturist.

Sir, through a mistake one of the Agriculturists (March No.) came to this office, which I presume should have gone to White Hall, Ill. The word Ill. is so written as to represent Ia.; consequently the mistake.

The object of my writing is to inform you that I examined your paper and was astonished to find it so interesting to me; and I have no doubt it would be equally so to the farming community generally in this section of country and elsewhere where it is now not known. I believe all that is wanting to give it a general circulation is an acquaintance with it. If I had a prospectus or some of your Nos., I would try to circulate and see what could be done for it here. I have seen notices of the Agriculturist at Chicago and paid but little attention to it, having my preference to Eastern papers; but seeing this they are entirely removed. I am now convinced that the Union Agriculturist published at Chicago, Ill., from the No. which I have seen, is just the thing we want in the West. Please consider me a subscriber for this present Vol., and send me the back Nos., and I will send you the money in advance, and if I can, will also send the names of some of my neighbors, with their cash,

Yours respectfully,

Mathias Stover, P. M.,

☞We shall seldom trouble our readers with such letters as the above, and merely insert this that our friends may see how easy it is to enlist the farmers of the West in sustaining the Agriculturist. If communications are received in future as they are at present—and we have every reason to expect an increase, rather than a diminution—others will prefer a Western to an Eastern paper, however strong may have been their prepossessions in favor of the East. One communication from a Western practical farmer, may be worth more to a farmer in this region, than half a volume of an Eastern paper.

When our friends write to an acquaintance, why will they not add a short P. S. about the Agriculturist? and when writing us, we shall be greatly obliged if they will send the names of some of their acquaintances, with their address, who would be like to subscribe for the paper, or become correspondents, and we will send them copies. It is necessary that every means be taken to introduce the Agriculturist to Western farmers.

Meetings in McHenry and Lake Co's.—We have been hoping to receive notice of agricultural meetings, to be held in these counties during the session of the courts next week and week after. None has been received, but it is expected steps will be taken to organize the county societies. It is of the first importance, and should not be neglected.

THE GLEANER.

Having on our exchange list about thirty agricultural publications, weekly, semi-monthly and monthly, besides a great number of others; we see often descriptive notices, or excellent advice and remarks, which our room will not allow us to insert at length. To relieve in part the annoyance of this *evil*, we shall under this head give the substance of those articles which can be condensed, being ever careful to give credit to the paper furnishing it. A large amount of such matter already prepared, is crowded out of this No.

Goldsborough's Husking and Shelling Machine.—The Balt. Am. Farm. says of this machine, that it operates as fast as two men with the corn in the husk at their feet can feed it, sweeping every grain from the cob, entirely husking the husks all ready for the mattress-makers, and making them equal to good hay for farm stock. The price of the machine is not stated, nor is there any description of it.

Beet Pies.—Sally, in the Maine Farmer, complains most bitterly of imposition in being induced to make beet pies, which "neither man, cat, dog, nor cow could eat with any kind of grace; nor even a hog, unless very hungry, and then at long intervals of severe squealing." Suppose she should try Mr. Gifford's recipe. Mr. Holmes, the editor, treats the case good naturedly, and asks a very *serious* question:—"Wouldn't the pie be a good accompaniment for the saw-dust puddings that *us* editors are glad to get?"

Baldwin's Corn and Cob Crusher.—R. Sinclair Jr. & Co., of Baltimore, Md., have

furnished the Albany Cultivator with a description of this machine, from which we extract the following: that three bushels of cobs possess as much nutriment as one bushel of corn—that cattle and swine thrive faster and are more healthy when fed on corn and cob meal mixed, than when fed on corn alone—that the machine may be worked by two hands, but that the labor and speed required, will not justify the use of manual power, except for small quantities—it should be driven 250 revolutions in a minute—the amount of work it will do is not stated,—cost $65.

Bran for Feeding Stock.—A correspondent of the Baltimore Am. Farm., giving his own experience, recommends the use of bran in feeding all kinds of stock. It should be moistened, and mixed with cut hay, when given to cattle and horses. He says, by feeding his ewes with it in the spring, he produced a great flow of milk, which fattened the lambs so as to make them the admiration of the butcher; and that by mixing it with turnips, the yearling sheep will eat the turnips freely; whereas, without it, they will frequently refuse them. One bushel of bran to two of turnips and sugar beets mixed and cut fine, is his proportion.

The Sugar Beet.—It is amusing to look over the statements of farmers with regard to the use and value of this root. Every agricultural paper abounds with them. Some say they are worth little for feeding stock, whereas many will give statements like the following from the Boston Cultivator: "Col. E. Falkner, of Acton, tells us he has been very successful in fattening a cow *nineteen years* of age, on beets and meal. She was poor in the fall; he fed her only ten weeks on about three pecks of beets per day, and half a peck of meal, and the beef was good enough for an epicure."

Mixture of Potatoes.—A "Kentucky Farmer" states in the Cincinnati W. Far. and Gard., that two years since he planted Irish Grays and Whites separately, at intervals between twelve rows of corn, and there was no mixture of either color or form. Last spring he planted these two sorts together in the same hill, and found upon digging, the skins of the White potatoes were mottled with the pale blue or grey of the Irish Grays.

Dogs.—Mr. Geo. Smith, in the same paper, alludes to the expense farmers are frequently at in keeping worthless curs, and suggests that they be changed for a Bakewell or South Down, or a Berkshire pig. The increase of sheep in Illinois would be enormous, were one substituted for each worse than worthless dog.

Sunday Improvements.—The same paper contains judicious remarks as to improvements in other things than cattle and swine. It names the Bremen goose, weighing when dressed 21 lbs. 10 oz. Such geese as those are worthy of the West. They would be more on the same grand scale upon which Nature has laid off her handiwork, than the diminutive goslings that are generally seen. It recommends also the substitution of the Buffalo-berry for the Snowberry, as a door-yard ornament; the former attaining the height of 15 or 20 feet, and furnishing a berry, in flavor and appearance, resembling the cranberry, for which it is made a substitute in cooking.

Spirit of Improvement in Kentucky.—The Junior Editor of the same paper, in writing from Kentucky, says the legislature had ordered 5000 copies of an address by Mr. Chilton Allan, Pres., delivered before the Kentucky Ag. Soc., to be printed at the expense of the State. What would our legislators say, were they requested to print such documents?

Stable Floors.—Several papers speak of abolishing the use of stable floors for horses. Mr. George Giddings, of West Hartford Conn., who is said to be an excellent practical farmer, has not used them for several years, and says that he obtains twice or thrice as much manure as his neighbors get from the same stock—says he would not have floors if they were furnished, and his stables cleaned out gratuitously. If this be indeed good advice, our Western farmers will be glad to learn it, for much expense will be saved to them; but we supposed horses to be very liable to the scratches, when standing continually in their dung.

Proper age of Seed Wheat.—In the New-England Farmer, is a communication from Mr. Thomas W. Lyon of Northboro' Mass., upon this subject; from which we learn, that after much attention to the growing of most kinds of grain, and other seeds, with *fifty-years experience*, which entitles his opinions to credit, he has come to the conclusion, that:

"Old seed should produce more and better grain than new. It is well known to all agriculturists that all seeds take root before they put furth the blade; and it is necessary that they should root firm in order to produce healthy and robust stalks; therefors, to ensure a good crop, take old seed, and for this reason—it loses its germinating qualities *in the blade* in a greater proportion than *in the root*—hence it will not come up so soon after sowing by from three to five days, as new seed—the difference depending altogether on age. During this difference of time, the grain is occupied in rooting firm and deep, and thus becoming able to produce a healthy and robust stalk. This delay gives vigor to the blade, which will be manifested by its dark green color, all which shews maturity in the germinating oil of the seed, which is as necessary as it is to let the grain come to maturity before it is harvested. Blasted or shrunk seed is preferred by many farmers, not that they think it better, but because it will go further; this is however a minor consideration; the true cause is that it has much of the quality of old seed; it loses in a very rapid manner while ripening after it is struck with blight, that portion of vegetating oil which nourishes the blade or quickens vegetation, while the germinating qualities of the root are retained without any apparent loss."

He gives as an additional reason, that wheat reised from old seed, is not so liable to attack from the Hessian fly; as it prefers the tender, juicy stalk from new wheat to the tough and bitter one from old wheat. He suggests too whether it would not be for the interest of wheat growers, to sow a portion of new seed in strips of sufficint size to feed the fly during its ravages or feeding season; or to mix old and new seed together, which might be less trouble as well as less safe.

Beets and Butter.—A correspondent of the Balt. Amer. Farm. says, that after repeated trials since 1839, in feeding milch cows with the Mangold Wurtzel and Sugar beet, he thinks a continued feeding with them diminishes the quantity of butter; although the secretions of milk were frequently made greater. He finds cob meal with other feed, to be good, giving a fine flavor and color to the butter. Where milk or beef is the object, he says the beet is all it is recommend to be.

Feeding Swine.—Mr. T. C. Peters, through the Albany Cultivator, recommends to boil 16 bushels of potatoes, and when hot, after washing them, add two bushels of meal, or its equivalent in provender. He mashes his potatoes in the same water in which they were boiled.—Has fed out over 300 bushels, and found no bad effects from it.

He also says he cooks his oats for his horses, and thinks he saves one fourth by doing it.

A New Tea.—Mr. L. Cate, of Loudon. N. H. has sent to the Monthly Visitor, a description of a new kind of Tea, which he has used more than ten years, and is very wholesome and palatable. He calls it the American Free Shon Tea, says it has been called "cure all," and thinks it might as well be called Patent Medicine. He says on account of its healing qualities the Indians called it Side Weed, using it for pain in the side.

We should like a little of the seed.

Black Sea Wheat.—Several of the Eastern papers, speak of this wheat as very valuable. A correspondent of the Monthly Visitor, says in Vermont it yielded from fifteen to twenty fold; and that it gave a good harvest last summer along side of fields of common wheat which entirely failed. We have stated in a former No., that it is not so liable to be injured by rust as other species; and if there is any in this section for sale, it should be advertised that farmers may know where to procure it.

Ornamental Gardening.—We are indebted to some unknown friend for a copy of Mr. Walsh's plan of a garden, with drawings &c. which appeared in the Feb. No. of the Albany Cultivator. Very few in the West are prepared as yet to bestow as much labor and expense on their gardens, as the plan would require; and being at present much crowded with matter, we think best to postpone the insertion of this beautiful plan to some future No. We shall give it with the engrevings by-and-by.

The Yellow Locust Tree.—The Peoria Democratic Press, in an interesting manner, shows the great profits of cultivating this tree. It is of advantage to cultivate it in any section of the U. S.; but here on our prairies, where so much is said of the scarcity of timber, it is worthy of much attention. Besides being of most rapid growth, it furnishes one of the most durable kinds of timber; and if rail-fences are to be used, [which we trust will not be generally,] the farmer will find it for his interest to give immediate attention to its culture. The Press makes the following estimate:

Prairie, 10 acres, at $3 per acre,	$30
Rails and putting up a fence round do.	65
Seed and attention tu nursery,	20
Breaking up prairie, putting it in order, and setting out seeds,	40
Subsequent attention to same, fence, etc.	35
At 7 per ct. compound interest this sum, $190—in ten years will nearly double, making	380
Deduct this from 6,400 trees, 12 years old, say at only 50 cents each	3,200
Leaves a net profit of	$2,820

If we remember right, on the old homestead in Conn., they used to get $1 per cubic foot for this tree for ship-building; so that the estimated value of the trees at 12 years old may be considered quite low.

The following are the instructions of the editor for its cultivation, who says he is qualified by experience to give advice. He significantly remarks:

"*You'll begin this spring.* The locust is raised either from the seed or suckers; but as the former mode is best adapted to our present purpose we shall confine our remarks to it.—Select a rood and a half or two roods of ground that has been under cultivation several years, and which is of a rich loamy soil, neither too wet nor too dry: put it in fine condition, and having procured the seed, in order to make them vegetate freely pour upon them boiling water and let them soak a few hours. Then sow them in drills three or four feet apart, and two or three inches distant in the drills, covering them nearly as thickly as you would do corn. But, we would have you bear in mind that this should be done while the earth is moist, and when done the whole should be passed over with a roller of sufficient weight to press together the earth so as to favor the retention of moisture which will accelerate the germination of the seed. If these directions are strictly attended to the seed will come up as certainly and regularly as beans, and in many cases the young trees will attain the height of four feet the first season. Care should be taken that they be kept free of weeds, and they may remain in their seedling location two years.—At the end of this time, transplant them to the ground designed for the purpose, and which must, during the time the seedlings occupy their place in the nursery, be enclosed, broken up and prepared for their reception. There is no difficulty in transplanting them, and where the roots are taken up carefully it is a rare case to see a tree die. To give the above number of trees in the 10 acres they must be set 8 by 8½ feet apart. In about two years after they are set out the ground will afford a superior pasture to which it may be applied without detriment to the trees."

"But, you'll say we have made no allowance for *paper calculation*. True, we will therefore now throw in, to make up for that objection, the ten acres of land with the locust stumps, which will be of immense value for a new growth of trees, that will follow without a nursery, and with less care, more certainty and greater rapidity, than the first *crop*, at the same time affording an almost inexhaustible source for locust suckers."

A new Tomato.—The botanists of the exploring squadron discovered at the Fijis a new species of the Tomato. Its flavor is said to be much superior to that growing here, being very palatable when eaten raw.—*Anon.*

One's mouth fairly waters at seeing the name of this *the* vegetable; and if any of the seeds of this new variety have been sent to the U. S., if some one would send us only one seed, we shall be greatly indebted.

Tobacco.—For some time we have been looking for instructions in the culture and curing of tobacco, and it is at length furnished in that excellent paper, the Baltimore American Farmer. Many in the West are turning their attention to raising the "filthy weed"—beg pardon, "delicious morsel"—and some of our readers may desire instruction, which seems to be amply furnished in this essay. We shall condense as much as possible that it may be given in this and the next Nos. It will be remembered it is written for the meridian of Maryland.

The writer, (his name is not given,) says, the crops must be kept perfectly clean of grass and weeds; and that cultivators of tobacco must take extra pains to save all their manure. He recommends that the same land should not be cultivated with tobacco two successive years, but after removing the crop, sow wheat or rye, and the ensuing spring put in clover. Light soils are best for tobacco.

"There are various opinions among planters about the best time to plough up land that is set in clover that is intended for tobacco. Some think the fall of the year best, others think the spring the best, because the land being exposed during the winter to the hard freezes, loses some of its fertility. My own opinion is, that land that has been pastured closely should not be ploughed up out of the clover until late in April, and the stock should be kept off the clover from February, so as to permit it to grow two or three inches high. Clover, in a young and growing state, turned in by the plough, soon rots and considerably improves the land.

"Land broken up late will require but one more ploughing before it is laid off for to make the tobacco hills; whereas, if it is ploughed up early in the spring it will be necessary to plough it over twice before the tobacco is planted. When land that is intended for tobacco has a great deal of litter on it, I think it best to break it up, either in the fall or early in the spring. I always, when my tobacco land is rich enough, cut the clover for hay if I can do so, if not, I try to pasture it closely; for, if the land should not be quite as rich as it ought to be, the clover hay furnishes manure which goes back to it. For, as I have before remarked, tobacco will not grow quickly on land that has much litter in it.

"Tobacco that grows off immediately after being planted is soon ready for the house, and the consequence is, it will with proper attention cure good.

"The best situation for a plant bed that will grow plants early, is on a hill side, having a slope towards the south, and if the land suits, the bottom or foot of the hill side is best. This situation fully exposes the bed to the 12 o'clock sun, and keeps off the northwest winds, which are frequent and cold during the spring months. I always select places for beds on the margin of running streams if the land suits. The running water keeps the tobacco flies away on that side, and furnishes water to put on the bed in very dry weather. I have frequently watered tobacco beds with great advantage.

"In choosing land for a tobacco bed, a planter should be careful so as not to take that which is likely to *sponge*—that is, land that dries quick after a rain; for, in this kind of land the tobacco seed will not come up so well, as the ground very frequently dries below the seed after they have sprouted, and consequently kills them. The best kind of land is that which is well covered with vegetable mould.

"Almost any land or situation would answer very well for beds if it was not for the tobacco fly. They are not so apt to eat in places, distant from other places, where beds have been sown or tobacco has been grown. I have always found the first situation that I have mentioned tho best, on account of flies; that is, a place not exposed to the northeast or northwest winds. It is a fact that has been long known to tobacco planters, that the flies eat worse during the prevalence of cold northeast winds, than at any other time: hence they do not injure beds in warm so much as they do in cold situations. Another thing is, the plants grow faster in warm places, and are sooner out of their way. As yet, I know of nothing that will prevent flies from eating when once they have gotten in a bed, nor do I know of any thing that will kill them. Many experimouts have been tried, but with little or no success. I have known persons to sow sulphur on their beds. Others have sprinkled over them the juice of common elder leaves. Some I have known to sow rye flour on their beds under the impression that the flour, by forming an incrustation on the plants, prevented the flies from eating. Some suppose that keeping the beds covered with pine brush keeps the flies away. If any covering is of any advantage, it is a covering of well rotted stable manure, put on very carefully so as nearly to cover the plants, without covering them entirely up.

"In very large pieces of woods, the flies are not so likely to injure plants. But at the present day, the woods are so cut down that many planters have no such places. After all the experiments that have been tried, with respect to flies destroying tobacco plants, the situation of the bed has been found to be of more consequence than anything else; that is, places where the flies are not likely to be.

"Almost any kind of soil or situation might be made to grow plants, were it not for the flies.—These little insects are the greatest obstacle to the culture of tobacco.—If it was not for them, the cultivation of tobacco would be as successful as any other culture.

"The best and surest time to sow plant-beds in upland, is about the middle of March.—Beds sown at this time will produce more plants, and require loss picking or weeding to keep the grass and weeds out. There are several objections to the custom of sowing seed in the winter months.—One of them is, if there should be a warm spell of weather shortly after the seeds are sown, they will come up too soon and are likely to be killed by hard freezing weather. Another objection is, the beds, from having been prepared too early, become so hard before the warm weather commences in earnest, that the plants will not grow kindly. The plants also frequently come up in a sickly state, and very often remain so. Whereas, beds that are sown in March, from having been lately prepared, grow the plants off quickly. The seed comes up quickly and in a healthy state, and the plants are not injured by drought as much as they would be had the beds been prepared in the winter. The best time to sow lowland beds is about the first of April.

"In preparing of plant-beds, it has been the custom from time immemorial to burn them over with brush or wood.—This, no doubt, is the best way where it can be done. It certainly is best to burn a place that has not been used for a plant-bed for several years before. But a bed that has been sowed tho preceding year, will grow plants without being burned again. Beds, before the seed are sown, should be well pulverized and cleared of all roots or

other litter. When sowing the seed it is best to sow one half of the seed intended for the bed, and then rake them in the ground —The other half of the seed should then be sown across the way the others were sown, and the bed then *trod* or *patted*. By this mode of sowing seed the bed is prepared for dry or wet weather; that is, should the weather be dry the seed raked in will come up; if the weather is wet both sowings will come. The surest way to have plants is to sow plenty of seed in a bed. It is true, beds will be better with a certain quantity of plants in them; but as plants are liable to be destroyed in so many ways, it is surest to sow *thick*. A great many plants are destroyed by picking the grass out of the beds. Besides, thick sowing is a great security against the flies. Beds that are thinly set with plants are soon cleaned when the flies get in them; whereas, beds thickly set may be considerably eaten by flies, and yet plants enough left: hence the trite saying 'sow some for fly and some for I,' I have known persons to miss planting their crop of tobacco by not sowing seed enough in their beds; but I never knew one to miss by sowing too many. Beds that have too many plants in them can be raked and the plants thinned. This has for a long time been customary. A rake for the purpose is soon made. I have made the teeth with twenty-penny nails." *To be continued.*

MILLET.

Culture.—This plant will grow upon any soil of tolerable richness, though it does best on a loam. The ground should be prepared as for ordinary crops. The seed may be sown broad-cast, and covered with the harrow. If sown early, the crop may be gathered in August, though if sown any time before the 25th June, it will come to maturity. If seed is the object, four quarts of seed to the acre will be enough; but if intended principally for cattle feed, the quantity of seed may be increased to eight quarts. It grows to the height of from two to six feet, according to the quality of the soil. Birds are fond of the seed, and devour it as soon as it begins to ripen. The crop should be therefore cut before the whole has matured, and while the straw is green. It may be cut with a sickle, scythe or cradle, and should be housed as soon as it is sufficiently dry.

Product.—The product will be according to the soil, and will vary from ten to thirty bushels of seed, and from one to three tons of forage, on the acre. It sometimes produces more than a thousand fold returns.

Use.—We have found it an excellent substitute for corn, in fattening hogs, either ground or boiled; and its early maturity renders it particularly useful for this purpose. It is an excellent food for poultry; and if ground would probably be useful for neat cattle and horses. The straw is eaten freely by cattle, and both the seed and straw abound in nutritious matter.—*Albany Cultivator.*

The following opinions were advanced by Messrs Colman and Buckminster, at the Agricultural meetings in Boston:

"Millet was both grass and grain. Mr C. had himself raised it at the rate of three tons to the acre. It is an annual plant, and is useful when other crops fail. He had known millet sown in August, and a good crop obtained after the crop of hay had been cut off with drought. Cattle prefer it to almost any other kind of hay. When ripened it is a valuable grain, weighing from thirty to forty pounds to the bushel."

"Millet has (Mr. B.) believed a great exhauster of the soil: it probably would not exhaust so much when cut for hay before it was ripe. It could not be profitably cultivated in this country for any other than a late crop."

GARDENING, (Continued from Page 22.)

The work of drilling may be performed in various ways; in some cases a plough is used, in others a small hoe, or a dibble drawn along the edge of a board or line; it is of little consequence which way the work is done, if it be well done. While I leave the gardener to make his own choice of tools, I would suggest that he be provided with two or three drilling machines; these, every handy man may make for himself; they should be in the form of a garden rake, with a stout heavy back, and five teeth two inches broad, and tapered so as to enter the ground, and leave drills two inches deep. If one be made with the teeth eight inches apart, another twelve, and another fourteen, they will be useful in making drills for various seeds; and drills thus made serve instead of straining a line for every row in planting Cabbages, Lettuce, Leeks, &c. the line being stretched at one edge of the bed, and the drilling machine drawn straight by the line, makes five drills at once. If they are straight, they may be kept so, by keeping one drill open for the outside tooth to work in until the ground be all drilled.

Gardeners practice different methods of covering up seeds, some do it with a hoe, others with a rake or harrow; some draw a portion of the earth to the side of the bed; and after sowing the seeds, return it regularly over the bed; in some particular cases, a sieve is used, in others a roller. Rolling, or treading in seeds, is necessary in dry seasons, but it should never be done when the ground is wet.

There is nothing that protects young crops of Turnips, Cabbages, and other small plants, from the depredations of the fly, so well as rolling; for when the surface is rendered completely smooth, these insects are deprived of the harbour they would otherwise have under the clods and small lumps of earth. This method will be found more effectual than soaking the seed in any preparation, or dusting the plants with any composition whatever; but as the roller must only be used previous to, or at the time of sowing the seed, and not even then if the ground be wet, it is necessary that the gardener should have a hogshead always at hand in dry weather, containing infusions made of waste tobacco, lime, soot, cow dung, older, burdock leaves, &c. A portion of these ingredients, or any other preparation that is pernicious or poisonous to insects, without injuring the plants, thrown into a hogshead kept filled up with water, if used moderately over beds of young plants in dry weather, would, in almost every case, insure a successful crop.

As liquid, however, cannot be conveniently used on a large piece of land, it may be necessary, if insects are numerous, to sow tobacco dust, soot, ashes, lime, or the dust of charcoal, in the proportion of half a bushel per acre, every morning, until the plants are free or secure from their attacks. Turnip seed will sometimes sprout in forty-eight hours.—Cabbage seed ought to come up within a week after it is sown; but it sometimes happens that the whole is destroyed before a plant is seen above ground; the seedsman, in this case, is often blamed without a cause. A correspondent has communicated the result of an experiment he has tried for preventing the attacks of flies or fleas, on turnips. He says, "steep your seeds in a pint of warm water for two hours, in which is infused one ounce of saltpetre; then dry the seed, and add currier's oil sufficient to wet the whole; after which mix it with plaster of Paris, so as to separate and render it fit for sowing."

Many kinds of seeds, such as Asparagus, Capsicum, Celery, Fetticus, Leek, Lettuce, Onion, Parsnip, Parsley, Rhubarb, Salsify, Spinage, and other light seeds, will not vegetate freely, unless the ground be watered or rolled; where there is no roller on the premises, the following may answer for small beds as a substitute: after the seed is sown and the ground well raked, take a board (or boards) the whole length of the bed, lay them flat on the ground, beginning at one edge of the bed, walk the whole length of the bed, this will press the soil on the seed, then shift the boards till you have thus gone over the whole bed.—In the absence of boards, tread in the seed with the back of your spade or shovel.

If it be necessary at any time to sow seeds in dry weather, it is recommended to soak the seeds in water mixed with sulphur. This practice, with attentive watering, will cause the seed to vegetate speedily.

As it may not be generally known that some species of seeds are apt to lose their vegetative qualities much sooner than others, the following hints are subjoined as some rule for the gardener's government, provided the seeds are carefully preserved, and not exposed to excess of heat, air, or dampness:—

Parsnip, Rhubarb, and other light scale like seeds, cannot be safely trusted after they are a year old.

Beans and Peas of different species, Capsicum, Carrot, Cress, Leek, Nasturtium, Okra, Onion, Salsify, Scorzonera, and small Herb seeds in general, may be kept two years.

Artichoke, Asparagus, Egg-plant, Endive, Fetticus, Lettuce, Mustard, Parsley, Skirret and Spinach seed, may with care be preserved three years.

Broccoli, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Celery, Kale, Radish, and Turnip seed, will keep four years, if properly attended to.

Beet, Cucumber, Gourd, Melon, Pumpkin and Squash, also Burnet, Chervil, and Sorrel seeds, have been known to grow freely when five and even seven years old; but it is not prudent to venture seed in the garden, of the soundness of which we are not certain.—*Bridgeman's Young Gardener's Assistant.*

Remarks on the General Principles of Husbandry.—1. Whatever may be the nature of your soil, and situation of your farm, remember that there is no soil so good but it may be exhausted and ruined by bad tillage, and that there is none so bad that it cannot be rendered fertile by good tillage, even barren heath, if it can be ploughed and swarded.

2. The true art of husbandry consists in suffering no crop to grow upon your land that will so far exhaust your soil as to lessen the value of your succeeding crop, whatever profit such crop may afford you.

3. To avoid this, suffer no crop to grow two years successively, upon the same piece of ground, excepting grass and buckwheat, without the fertilising aid of rich manures, to support the strength of the soil, and even then, a change of crops will generally do best excepting onions, carrots, and hemp.

4. Every plant derives from the earth for its growth, such properties as are peculiar to itself; any plant, when followed successively for two or more years upon the same ground, will exhaust the soil of those properties peculiar to itself, without lessening its powers to produce some other plants. The fact is most striking in the article of flax, which will not bear to be repeated more than once in seven years, and is common to all crops, with the exception of those noticed above.

5. To avoid this evil, arrange your farms in such divisions as will enable you to improve all the varieties of crops your land may require, in such regular succession, as to form a routine of five, six or seven years, according to the nature, quality, and situation of your farm.

6. This method will make poor land good, and good better. Try and see.—*Farmer's Cabinet.*

Swine.—As much depends on the breed of swine as of any domestic animal, as relates to the profit of keeping. The old-fashioned, thin, long-legged, long-nosed, gaunt-bodied hogs are now, we believe, hardly tolerated in New England, (would the same could be said of our Western States,) and are becoming as scarce as they are ugly and unprofitable. We are but little acquainted with the different breeds of their successors, and shall not therefore assume the responsibility of recommending any particular race. O. Fiske, Esq., of Worcester, an able, enlightened, and patriotic cultivator, says, "My hogs are of the Bedford breed, so called in England; and experience has proved to my satisfaction that this breed is far the best that has been introduced into our country. They are quiet in their nature, fat easy, and with little expense or trouble. I have had some weigh at twelve months old about 340lbs. and a considerable number of eighteen months old 400 lbs."

"The marks of a good hog are, a moderate length in proportion to the size of the body; the nose short; the cheek plump and full; neck thick and short; quarters full; carcass thick and full; hair fine and thin; with a symmetry adapted to the breed to which it belongs. Above all, it is essential that it be of a kindly disposition to fatten early."

The sow should be selected with great care, broad and straight-backed; wide hips; a great many teats; short legs, and fine bone. It is said that the sow will produce the stronger and better litter if not allowed to breed till a year old, and the boar should not be younger than that age when put to sows. Sows may be allowed to breed till they are six years old, and boars till five; and both be made good pork after this period, by methods which do not require description. One male, according to "The Complete Grazier," should not be permitted to have access to more than ten females in a year. Sows will usually have pigs twice a year, and should be put to the males at such times as will bring one litter in April and another early in September.

"Those sows are accounted the best breeders," says "The Farmer's Assistant." "which have about ten or twelve paps. They should be kept clean and well littered; but should not have too much litter at the time of pigging, lest they overlay their pigs in it. At the end of a week or ten days, they should be let out of their sties into the yard for three or four hours each day. Where several sows are farrowing about the same time, they must be kept in separate apartments in the sty, lest they devour the pigs of each other. Young sows will sometimes eat their own offspring, which may be prevented, by washing the backs of the pigs in an infusion of aloes; and for this purpose, the sows must be watched. It is said that supplying them with plenty of water at this time will prevent any mischief taking place of this kind."

Sows devouring their Offspring. It is not unfrequently the case that sows destroy their offspring. In "The New England Farmer," (vol. v. p. 214,) is a communication from the Hon. O. Fiske, in which he observes, "In most cases where I have inquired into the fact whether an old or young breeders, I have ascertained that they have been disturbed in some of their essential habits, either having been removed from their companions, their range restricted, or from being removed from one pen to another. All these changes, however, may be effected with safety, by allowing them sufficient time to become accustomed to them, four or five weeks at least. I have known sows do well with a second litter after having destroyed a first under one of the above excitements. Hence, it would be unwise to condemn to death one which had fair otherwise to be a valuable breeder, even for this most unnatural crime."

Another writer directs to "separate the sow from the rest of the swine six or eight weeks before her bringing forth, so that she may become accustomed to her pen. Care should be taken, however, to have her pen kept dry and well littered; always giving them litter enough so as not to be obliged to give any for six days before the time, for nothing disturbs a sow more than an abundance of litter, and which in my opinion has a great tendency to induce her to destroy her young. If the sow is with the other swine till within a few days of her bringing forth, and then separated, she will not get accustomed to her pen, and being disturbed, she will be pretty sure to destroy her pigs.

"Raw salt pork, cut in small pieces, and given, will prevent them from eating their pigs. I have seen it given after they had ate two or three of their litter, with good success. But to prevent any mischief it should be kept by them at this time." A writer for the same paper, (vol. xi. p. 298,) observes, "I have been careful for about a week before my sows were about to farrow, to give them some butcher's refuse meat, which does not cost much; if easy to be procured give them a plenty, and I will venture to say that they will not eat their pigs."

Another, in the same volume, p. 305, observes, "When the period of yeaning is near, I take the sow apart and give her free access to a warm bedroom of ample dimensions in my barn, with a dry plank floor, where the shingled walls prevent the entrance of cold, rain, or wind, but just enough straw to amuse her 'moments of anxiety,' but not enough to allow a single pig to cover his head and lose his road to the fountain of comfort." A writer with the signature of "Berkshire," in the same volume, p. 321, states as his opinion, that the evil is caused by confining the sow in a tight pen from the ground, and the want of a suitable supply of potatoes, turnips, ruta baga, etc., in addition to their other food. "*Whaler,*" in the same paper, p. 338, who has raised fine pigs on board of a whale ship, at sea, without grass or roots, believed animal food the specific remedy for the unnatural inclination of sows to devour their offspring. And "A Subscriber" "is sanguine in the opinion, that if sows are so placed as to be able to come to the ground a few days before pigging, no disappointment would ever happen in the loss of pigs. It is not convenient to let them ramble at large; a temporary pen upon ground is equally good." —*Complete Farmer.*

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

For the Union Agriculturist.

Beet Pies.—Noticing recently in a Philadelphia paper, a statement that the beet makes a palatable pie, I pared and grated two beets to a pulp, with which my daughter made pies, which in quality and relish would not fall behind many that are made from more costly materials, especially to us in the West. Let the beet be pared and grated fine, on a common tin grater, or scraped with a knife; then stir into it about half a gill of good vinegar to a pint of pulp. Sweeten and spice to your taste, and bake thoroughly. Try it.

J. T. Gifford.

Elgin, 8th March, 1841.

Preserving Hams.—Mr. Robert Wilson of Fairfield Conn., says through the Albany Cultivator he preserves his hams from flies &c., by packing them in oats. In the fall he mixes his oats with corn and grinds them to make more ham.

Cooking Hams.—The New Haven Far. Gazette says, hams are very nice if boiled three hours, then carefully skinned, and pounded crackers (or rusk) sprinkled on them, and than baked one hour. We know from experience they are excellent.

Yeast.—Boil one pound of good flour, a quarter of a pound of brown sugar, and a little salt, in two gallons of water for an hour; let it afterwards stand until it becomes milk warm, bottle it and cork it close. It will be fit for use in twenty-four hours. One pint of this will make eighteen pounds of bread.—*Lady's Annual Register.*

Gapes in Chickens.—For this disease the Western Farmer and Gardener gives the following remedy; administer on its first appearance three drops of turpentine, in five or six hours five drops; if the disorder continue until the following morning eight drops; six or eight hours after, increase to 10 or 12 drops. Give them soft food. The chickens must be confined in a warm place till the effects are over. If not taken in the first stages it is incurable.

Horn Distemper.—A 'Practical Farmer' in the Boston Cultivator, while he admits that the application of spirits of turpentine is good, asserts the use of hot brimstone is still better, for the cure of the horn ail. He puts one spoonful boiling hot into the cavity just between the horns.

Scours in Calves.—When the calf is attacked it should be put in a warm, dry stable, and not be permitted to suck more than half the quantity of milk it is wont to do; but should be put to the cow regularly three times a day. Make a tea of equal portions of white oak, beech, dogwood, and slippery elm bark, and give small doses twice a day, and the calf will soon recover.—*Agriculturist.*

CHICAGO PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED APRIL 7th, 1841.

			$ cts.		$ cts.
BREAD STUFFS—					
Flour, Superfine,	per	bbl.	3 25	a	3 50
Corn Meal,	"	bu.	28	a	31
GRAIN—					
Wheat, Winter,	"	bu.	48	a	56
do. Spring,	"	bu.	37	a	44
Corn,	"	bu.	28	a	31
Oats,	"	bu.	20	a	—
Barley,	"	bu.	25	a	31
Beans,	"	bu.	37	a	50
SALT—					
Fine,	"	bbl.	3 25	a	—
HIDES—					
Green,	"	lb.	3	a	3½
Dried,	"	lb.	8	a	9
GROCERIES—					
Molasses,	"	gal.	65	a	75
Sugar, St. Croix,	"	cwt.	11 50	a	12 00
do. N. O.	"	do.	10 00	a	11 00
do. Maple,	"	do.	9 00	a	10 00
Tea, Imperial,	"	lb.	1 00	a	1 13
do. Y. Hyson,	"	lb.	65	a	87
White Fish,	"	bbl.	7 00	a	—
LUMBER—					
Clear,	"	M.	16 00	a	20 00
Merchantable,	"	do.	9 00	a	12 00
Flooring,	"	do.	12 00	a	14 00
Siding,	"	do.	10 00	a	14 00
Refuse,	"	do.	7 00	a	8 00
Shingles,	"	do.	2 00	a	3 00
Lath, Board,	"	do.	8 00	a	10 00
PROVISIONS—					
Pork,	"	cwt.	2 50	a	3 25
do. Mess,	"	bbl.	10 00	a	12 00
do. Prime,	"	do.	8 00	a	10 00
Beef, on foot,	"	cwt.	3 00	a	3 50
do. packed,	"	bbl.	7 00	a	10 00
Hams, smoked,	"	cwt.	5 50	a	6 50
Lard,	"	do.	6 00	a	7 00
Butter,	"	lb.	10	a	12
Eggs,	"	doz.	8	a	10
Chickens,	"		12	a	18
Turkeys,	"		37	a	50
VEGETABLES—					
Potatoes,	"	bu.	25	a	28
Turnips,	"	bu.	25	a	31
Onions,	"	bu.	31	a	37
Parsnips,	"	bu.	37	a	—

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Col. Wm. Gooding's (*not* Rusticus') communication upon fencing, we thought best to postpone till the next No. ; as two long ones were first received.

C. N. Bement Esq., of Three Hills Farm, Albany N. Y., has sent the pedigrees of several of his fine animals in reply to the request in our first No. We must decline inserting it at present on account of the press of matter. We expected pedigrees would be furnished of Western animals. It would be satisfactory to any one purchasing an animal in the West, if his ancestry could be traced to animals owned by so honorable a breeder as Mr. B. Some few might like to go further back ; but they would be so few we probably would not be justified in inserting the letter, except as an advertisement.

The inquiries of "A Young Farmer" with regard to Clover and winter Wheat, are answered by Mr. Jas. Plaster of Livingston, Clark co., and will be given in No. 5.

Solon Robinson Esq., deserves, and has our thanks for his numerous favors. His instructions for the management of Berkshires are just received, and will appear in our next.

J. D. Manlove Esq., we expect to hear from again soon, according to promise.

H. K. Ashley Esq., of Lebanon, StClair co. has our thanks for his favor of the 20th ult.— We hope he and Dr. Casad will not forget our claims upon their pens.

An unknown *friend's* communication upon the paranip we cannot decipher.

Mr. Storar's 2nd letter of the 27th March is received, and we are greatly indebted for his efficient aid. Judge Dunn and Dr. Sheffield we are expecting to hear from soon. Notes of the Bank of Michigan, and Farmer's and Mechanics do., will be received for subscriptions.

Mr. J. S. Norton's recipe for curing the colic in horses &c. &c., will be given in No. 5.— The drawing of his sow, "Irish-Beauty," the artist says he cannot engrave without some of the lines are explained. Information with regard to the management of swine will be most acceptable to our readers; and we claim the fulfilment of Mr. N's promise to furnish it.

"W. Y. H." of Macomb, and "Filius Coloni," will excuse us for not inserting their communications in this No. We shall do it with pleasure as soon as room can be made ; but at this season of the year, it is better to fill the paper as far as possible with more practical information.

During the last month, letters have been received from Col. J. M. Bradford, Springfield ; Col. Buckmaster, Alton ; Edson Harkness and D. A. Gove, Trivoli, Peoria co. ; O. C. Hubbard, Manitowoc, W. T. ; J. M. Reynolds, Belleville ; Saml. Rolfe, Wdmington ; Jas. Rono, Carrollton, 4 (we wish we had a few more such friends as Mr. R. to send us two to five subscribers a week ;) Col. J. Milton Moore, Waterloo ; B. Rust, Harrisonville, Monroe co. ; Rufus Brown, Livingston, Clarke co. 2 ; John Catlin, Madison, W. T. ; H. A. Cyrus, Houston, Adams co. ; R. A. D. Wilbanks, Moore's Prairie. Those within the district are not noted ; neither are those of minor importance from a distance.

We are greatly disappointed in Goding Mr. Caton's and Mr. Churchill's communications crowded out—the first upon prairie breaking, and the latter upon bees, with the plan of a hive. They are both too long to be given in one No., and we intended to give them in this and the next.

Mr. Preotis' letter from Fountain Green, Hancock Co., and Mr. Watt's from Greenville, Bond Co., are in the same "fix."

An article upon the use of the roller with an engraving, and another upon the culture of the sweet-potato is crowded out.

Copies of a prospectus are sent with this No., which it is requested may be put up conspicuously. If an agent's name is not inserted, the P. M. or some other friend is requested to put his name in the prospectus.

LIST OF AGENTS.

ILLINOIS.

Albion, J. Brisscndon
Alsworth, Joel Catlin
Andover, J. Pillsbury
Abingdon, J. Meek
Alton, Richard Kerr
Alton, John Veal
Belleville, Maj. Wash. West
Bloomfield, Jos Van Pleet
Bluffdale, John Russell
Bloomington, J. H. Temple
Bethel, W. B Chesery
Bellmont, A. W. Rope
Bloomfield, E. Mitchall
Bainbridge, W. T Turner
Benton, W. S. Aiken
Brighton, A. A Hilliard
Bloomingville, A. Trumbull
Belvidere, O. Bushnell
Berlin, H G Bowers
Brownsville, Mr Brush
Bunker Hill, Saul Davis
Burton, Wm Richards
Clinton, J. J. McGraw
Canton, J. C. Bowalt
Carrollton, Post
Chester, W. McGinnis
Clayton, D M Campbell
Clear Creek, L. L Lushner
Carrollton, Wm Vance
Carthage, Val. Wilson
Carlinville, T P Hoxey
Chesterfield, Horace Loomis
Cross Meadow, Mr Barnes
Columbia, E T Morgan
Charleston, Jas Woolcot
Cold Brook, A B Gorton
Cornia, Daniel Hay
Concord, P. Slocumb
Calgio, Mr Woolsey
Collinsville, Horace Lock
Como, S P Breed
Columbus, John T Gilmer
Dorset, James Waters
Delaware, B Saunders
Dixon, Charles A Lane
Danville, Rev Asa L Risley
Duncanton, M Longford
Decatur, H M Gorin
Equality, John Reynolds
Elkridge, J W Parrish
Ewington, Thos Lay
Ellisville, L D Ellis
Elizabeth Town, Jos Steel
Eagle pt., L Solomon
Erie et. Jas Gribbons
Fairfield, J S Stuart
Frankford, Green, L Prentiss
Freeport, J A Clark
Grandview, Thos Smith
Green River, P K Hanna
Geneseo, J M Allen
Galena, Gen Bull
Galumb, L Greene
Guggsville, A Starns
Golconda, George Hodge
Greenville, Ralph Ware
Genesee, Elisha Hitt
Georgetown, David Vannell
Greenbush, S B Morse
Groveland, N Huntington
Grandville, W S Wait
Houston, H A Cyrus
Harrisonville, M T Hories
Highland, J H Goodwin
Hennepin, Wm Stuart
Hillsboro, C Holmes
Jacksonville, J Morgan
Jonesboro, Gen Duff
Jacksonville, Mr Brooks
Knoxville, H J Rankin
Lawrenceville, J Van Pleet
Lacon, Cochran & Parry
Lawrenceville, J G Allender
Lebanon, Dr A W Cassad
Lima, John C Wood
Lexington, R Brown
Louisville, S B More
Lamotte, Newton Walker
Little York, H Brownlee
Lacon, Cochran & Parry
Martinsville, John Stock well
Millersburg, H W Thurston
Meadon, Erastus Benson
Marshall, Edward Lole
Meyersville, Seth Ryves
Moore's prairie, R Wilhanks
Mount Vernon, F S Casey
Magnolia, Dr Gaylord
Manchester, Robert Houston
Mille prairie, H J Mills
Monmouth, D McNeil
Mount Carmel, T S Hinds
Mt Leonard, J C Lockwood
Northampton, S T McKean
New mile prairie, J Pyle
Naples K Ledwick
Nashville, L Carter
Oregon City, Mr Ford
Ogawaska, J D Patterson
Payson, Daniel Collins
Princeton, D G Salisbury
Perry, J M Buckham
Prairieton, Shad Rusk
Prairie du Long, B Newsham
Peoria, J C Fuller
Punchnayville, Dr Jones
Perry, J S King
Pontiac, H G Hubbard
Pekin, H Hatch
Pittsfield, D B Bush
Paddock's Grove, G Flagg
Quincy, J H Hutton
Rocellville, D Wuxford
Rushville, J B Mosslove
Rock Spring, Rev J M Peck
Rockford, Jason March
Rescue, Henry Abel
Ridge prairie, Gen Churchill
Shawneetown, E H Gatewood
Spring Garden, D W Compton
St Francisville, V Buchanan
Staunton, Thomas Hart
Salem John Wright
Saybrookville, Gen Davis
Shirley Mills Olney Oliver
Springfield, N W Edwards
Tyrrell, Edmon Harkness
Tremont, Col. Oakley
Unity, H L Webb
Utica, P W Marvin
Vandalia, J T Eccles
Vienna, J Reynolds
Watchall, C Gregory
Wayne, Brig. F Marsh
Westborough, O Bliss
Waterloo, S W Mills
Waverly, C J Salfar
Winchester, J Summers
Washington, S F Gorin
York, C Hilibert

INDIANA.

Attica, J & S Colman
Bygelow's Mills, A Bigelow, P. M.
City West, L Bradley P M
Clinton, Mr Whiteker
Covington, Wm Pyatt
Eugene, Judge Porter
La Porte, J S Crandal
Lake C. H., S Robinson P M
Mich. City, J M Stuart
Monticello, P Fries
Paris, James Jones
Southbend, S C Sample
Terrehaute, Dav. Lyons
Whitehall, M Stover P M

WISCONSIN.

Actalan, J L Thayer
Burlington, E Parkies
Beloit, Field & Lusk
Cassville, A D Ramsey
Delavan, S F Phœnix
Ft Winnebago, H Merrill
Fontana, Col Maxwell
Geneva, C M Goodsell
Janesville J L Kimbal P M
Jefferson co., Milo Jones
Madison, J Catlin P M
Mineral Point, C Bench
Mt. Pleasant, R C Ives
Monroe, N Phelps, P M
Manitowoc, T W Bakar
Milwaukee, George Reed
New Mexico, J Sutherland
Patch Grove, H Patch P M
Plattville, J H Rountree
Prairie du Chien, A Brandon
Racine, Thos. Wright
Spring Prairie, Dr Mills
Southport, Rev. R H Demog
Sheboygan, I N Arnold
Salem, Gen. Bullen
Salona, J L V Yates, P M
White Water, Dr. Tripp

MICHIGAN.

Adrian, Mr Halsey
Berrien, Judge Ballenger
Bertrand, Col Barbour
Coldwater, W B Joselyn
Cassopolis, Chas. Jones
Constantine, J S Berry
Detroit, S Mcknight, P M
Edwardsburgh, A Silver
Kalamazoo, J Willard P M
Kalamazoo, J Willard P M
Kalamazoo, J Willard P M

The Union Agriculturist

AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

VOL. I, CHICAGO, MAY, 1841. NO. 5

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, EDITED BY THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, THE ORGAN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TERMS.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance.* Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid.* Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorised by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1,50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance.* Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

THE GLEANER.

THE OX "PENNSYLVANIA."—The March No. of the Farmer's Cabinet furnishes a drawing of this magnificent animal, a cross between the Devon and Durham; live weight 3350 lbs.; slaughtered at Philadelphia on the 2d February, 1841, and weight of the 4 quarters 2388 lbs. We do not understand why the enormous sum of $1500 was paid for him merely for slaughtering, as it makes the cost of the meat more than 60 cents per pound, which even a hotel-keeper like Mr. J. Haad, who spares no expense for such luxuries, would like to pay but seldom. In no agricultural work have we seen an engraving of an animal in the U. S. taken from life, which appears to be so natural. The "fancy touches" are entirely left off.

While noticing engravings, we see in the Feb. No. a drawing of the Devon Bull "Porter," evidently copied from Youatt; though, as the Editor states it to be, it may be a good likeness of "Porter." This leads us to suppose that the engraving of the Ayrshire cow in the Jan. No., was not taken from a drawing of "Ellen McGregor;" but the engraving in Youatt being a very good likeness of her, it was copied. That No. of the Farmer's Cabinet came to hand while the proof of our Feb. No. was being corrected; and seeing the engravings of both papers to be alike, and no notice of the Cabinet's having borrowed from Youatt, we concluded America had been so fortunate as to have obtained the very cow from which the drawing for Youatt's invaluable work was taken; and therefore gave the name furnished by the Cabinet. This led us also to notice the spelling of "Ellen;" for supposing her to have received her name in Scotland, we thought it must be of course after Rob Roy's wife Helen.

MAMMOTH CHICKEN.—A correspondent of the Farmer's Cabinet, tells of a chicken, bred by Mr. Wood, of Haddonfield, N. J., a cross between the blue and black breeds, weighing *only* 19½ lbs. when killed and dressed. The eggs weigh six to a pound. In raising such fowls there is both pleasure and profit; and when ready for market there will be no lack of purchasers.

RUST, AND MILDEW OR MELDEW.—Agricola, who furnishes frequent communications for the same paper, and who seems to be a man of good sense, has written an essay upon these destructive maladies to wheat, which he thinks proceed from one common cause, and are nearly one and the same, from which we extract the following:—That by accurate experiments, it has been ascertained that of 15 parts of water, taken up by some plants, 13 are transpired; and that of the lowest on the scale, of 5 parts taken up, 4 are discharged by exhaling vessels—that the temperature of plants that transpire moisture freely, is constantly kept many degrees cooler than the surrounding atmosphere—that as rust or mildew is always preceded by what is known as hot muggy weather, the atmosphere is so saturated with moisture, as to render it impossible for the plant to relieve itself of its super-abundant fluids, and by the absorpt on still going on, the vessels of circulation are burst, discharging their contents into the cellular tissue, destroying the vitality of the plants, and leaving the hull only partially filled with farina. The rust he thinks is occasioned by the heat and internal pressure enlarging the pores of exhalation, and discharging the sap on to the surface of the stalk; and when evaporation carries off the moisture, the residuum displays itself somewhat like the rust of iron. He accounts for neighboring fields, or parts of the same field, not being equally affected, by supposing the less affected parts to be more advanced.

THE HESSIAN FLY.—The Jan. No. of the Farmer's Cabinet, contained the results of a careful observation of this insect by a lady, Miss Morris, of Germantown, Pa. Her theory is entirely new to most of the agricultural papers that have noticed it. She supposes the ovum is deposited in the seed of the wheat, and remains unchanged till the wheat sprouts—that in the spring, the worm ascends through the stalk to the sheath; changes to the pupa or flax-seed state; then to the perfect insect or fly; and during its ten days of life, deposits its eggs in the new wheat. The succeeding Nos. of the Cabinet have contained several communications upon the same subject; none of them however in accordance with Miss M.'s opinions, and so far as we can discover, no two agreeing. It is a subject meriting much attention, and though we believe the West generally has suffered little from the ravages of the fly, it may be our turn ere long; and we shall look carefully to the subject as the discussion progresses; and when any definite or probable conclusion is arrived at, will furnish our readers with the result. In the meantime, if there are those in the West who have made observations, we will thank them to communicate them to us, that the Union Agriculturist may do its part in assisting the investigation.

PEA PASTURE.—In reply to a query, as to the best pasture for bees, the Yankee Farmer recommends white clover, mignonette, mustard and sweet clover.

QUICK FRUIT.—The same paper says, a graft 7 inches in circumference, of the English Black Heart Cherry, was set in March in a common cherry stock, that produced an abundance of fruit the second year.

IMPROVED STOCK.—In the Alton Telegraph, we see Mr. B. C. Stanton, of Marine Settlement, Madison county, advertises a lot of choice stock for sale—Berkshires, &c. He probably will not keep it long on hand in that region.

BLACK SEA WHEAT.—Through the Rock River Express, the gentleman having charge of the Beloit Flouring Mill, cautions farmers against this wheat; as he had ground 22 bushels of it, that yielded less than two barrels of flour, of a quality little better than corn meal. How is this? We have never before seen the first word against this new species of wheat, but much in praise of it. Let us have facts.

TOBACCO.—In the Kentucky Farmer, is a prize essay upon the culture of tobacco. As yet we have had only time to glance over it: but it seems to be written in better style than the one we are now publishing from the Baltimore Am. Farmer. When we can find time they shall be compared; and if there is any material difference in the instructions, it shall be noticed.

IMPORTATIONS OF STOCK INTO ILLINOIS.—By the Tazewell Reporter, we learn Col. Oakley, of Tremont, has recently imported another lot of fine stock—3 Cotswold sheep, a Berkshire boar, and a pair of Woburn pigs. A fine Flanders horse was lost on the passage.

THE OSAGE ORANGE.—In an old number of the New Haven Far. Gaz., for a file of which the editor has our thanks, is a description of this tree, noticed in No. 1, written by A. S. Monson, M. D. He describes it as growing from 15 to 30 feet high, though it has been stated to grow twice that height—leaves fine and glossy, with sharp spines growing in their axils, a half inch to an inch and a half in length, and bearing a fruit resembling an orange, but not edible. The leaves are said to be a very good substitute for the mulberry in feeding worms. It seems to be a most excellent material for hedges, and if there is seed to be obtained anywhere in the West, it should be known; or if any one can give directions for procuring it, or further information concerning the tree, we should like much to have it.

DOMESTIC COFFEE.—The Detroit Advertiser has published several notices of a new vegetable cultivated for use instead of coffee. The editor says Mr. Mormon, who introduced it into Michigan, sent him a quantity, which when prepared had the flavor of the best Java. Half a pound of seed will produce a crop of a hundred lbs. Doubtless Mr. Mormon can find a market at home for all the seed he can spare; but if he would send some to the Repository of the U. A. S., we will insure its ready sale, and he will do the farmers of this region a great benefit. We hope he will at least send us a pound or two for seed. How is it cultivated?



This simple yet complete apparatus for feeding Silk Worms, invented and patented by Edmund Morris, of Burlington, N. J., has been found, after repeated trial, to accomplish the following important objects:

1. It secures the most thorough ventilation to all parts of the frame on which the worms are feeding, below as well as above, and obliges them, of necessity, to clean themselves of their excrement and other rubbish.

2. That part of all former modes of feeding which requires *waiting* for the worms to mount upon fresh foliage in order to clean them, is entirely dispensed with; and though cleansing is never necessary, yet should the worms require changing, it is done almost instantly, a thousand at a time, and without the worms being conscious of the change.

3. The whole apparatus is as portable as a quilting frame; and all the parts which require handling during the feeding season, are as portable as an umbrella, without being liable to breakage.

4. Ventilation and cleanliness are so perfectly accomplished, that disease seems out of the question, unless originating in the egg.

5. The age [from the spinning] of any number of cocoons, from one thousand up to a million, is identified to a day, and they are gathered with six times the facility of the hurdle system, at the same time coming out perfectly clean, and with but little waste of floss.

6. By using branches, cut down with a grass hook or scythe, it saves more than one half the usual expense of gathering foliage and feeding it to the worms, and more of them are accommodated in the same space.

7. It is cheaper and more durable than the hurdles. All the purchaser is required to do after receiving the frames, is to put in a few nails to support his uprights, and to put straw into his spinning roofs, and the whole contrivance is complete and ready for use.—*Silk Record.*

By a letter just received from Mr Morris, we are authorized to make and sell the above frame, and also the right to use it. Some of the frames will be for sale at the Repository in a few days. Mr. M. says many of them will be used in Illinois this season.

CREDITING TO PAPERS.—Perhaps the press generally, may think we make a terrible ado about Editors' stealing, considering the little value of our *own* productions; but "give the d—l his due," whether it may be little or much. We care but little for the *honor* of originating an article; but if a good communication is copied, and credit given for it to the "Chicago Agriculturist," some one might see it and send for our paper, who might otherwise never learn it was in existence. This is the reason why we are so touchy on this subject; and we are determined attention shall be paid to our requests. Hereafter if we find the veriest scrap, transferred without credit; in the succeeding No. we will publish the name of the paper. We intend to be particular in crediting ourself, and shall require our exchanges to be equally so. All is original which is not credited to some other publication.

One editor writes on the margin of his paper, "yours not rec'd."; and in the same No. publishes an extract from our last *as original.*

BEET ROOT PAPER.—Many of the papers state that an Englishman has ascertained a process by which the refuse of beets, after extracting the saccharine matter, is converted into paper. As yet only the coarser kinds have been manufactured; but it is supposed they will succeed in making finer qualities. We understand there is to be a paper mill started at Elgin; that and Mr Gifford's beet sugar manufactory will go well together.

THE ILLINOIS CULTIVATOR.—Mr S. Bliss of Wethersfield, Henry co., writes us this interesting paper has been discontinued. We were very much surprised to hear it; for in communicating with Mr. Gould, the publisher and editor, relative to its removal here, he said he had become so firmly established there, that he could not make the change. It is to be regretted it should have been discontinued without notice; as it might have been advantageously united with the Agriculturist. Will not the patrons of the Cultivator, now effect a union of the kind, by sending to us their subscriptions, and the communications they would have furnished that paper? We have still back Nos. on hand to supply subsequent subscribers.

MUSIC AT AGR. MEETINGS.—Mr. Gifford asks how we would like the plan of forming a procession, and proceeded by a band, marching to the place where the address was to be delivered. We like it much; and as Mr. G. says music can be obtained in Kane county, we hope every player will volunteer his services. We wish it had been done here. Though the meeting was very well attended, yet with that course twice the number would have been brought together. Other societies adopt this plan, why should not agricultural?

EARLY POTATOES AND CORN.—Mr Robinson brought with him for distribution among the farmers, some of the Nutmeg potatoes, which he says ripen in six weeks after planting—has had them perfectly ripe, and the vines dead in June. Also a few ears of Indian corn, valuable as a very early variety. Such things, left with us for distribution, will be given to members of the Society, who are subscribers to the paper.

DURHAM BULL NERO.—This animal belonging to Mr. Hill, V. P., of La Salle Co., measures as follows at 23 months old: girth 6 feet 9 in.; from horns to tail 7 feet 5 in.; height 4 feet 10 in.; size of arm 2 feet 1 in.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Union Agriculturist.

FENCING, &c.

It is generally conceded by those who have had the best opportunities for forming correct opinions, and are best qualified to judge, that Illinois is destined to become decidedly the first agricultural State in the Union. It requires indeed but a superficial knowledge of her climate, soil and position, to convince any unprejudiced mind of this fact. No State has a climate so various, for the extreme length of Illinois from North to South is 380 miles. No similar extent of territory in the United States contains so large a proportion of first rate soil, or so little waste land; and no *inland* State possesses any thing like her advantages for market.

But it is not my object at this time to describe these advantages. I hope that some one who can do this subject justice, will write such a communication for your paper as will give agriculturists abroad the requisite information. My design is to make a few observations in relation to one of the great *disadvantages* of the prairie portions of the State, and show how much it is overrated. This disadvantage, as it will at once be supposed, is the *want of timber*. This alone has prevented thousands of emigrants from establishing themselves in the "Prairie State;" and though our citizens understand the subject better, many of them still believe that generations yet unborn will pass away before these vast prairies will be improved.

But such will not be the case. The experiments which have been and are now being made, and a proper investigation of the subject by those who have not themselves witnessed the results of such experiments, will afford convincing proofs that there is nothing very forbidding after all, in the idea of settling in the middle of these large prairies.

The first and most serious objection to settling at a distance from timber with most emigrants, is the *expense*; and it will readily be admitted that an improvement can be more cheaply made on the borders of the timber than at a distance from it, and that for several reasons such a location is to be preferred. But I firmly believe that when a man has sufficient capital to begin properly, the expense of making a farm at the distance of *ten or fifteen miles* from timber will be less than to clear and improve one in it.

But to illustrate this we will suppose that the settler wishes to have an improvement of a half section, or 320 acres, and to have it divided into 40 acre lots. And to give him no advantage from contiguous improvements, we will suppose that he is at first compelled to commence without neighbors, and make all of his exterior fences. Nor will we allow him to make a *live fence*, for he will not probably be able to wait for it to grow, and if he could, the success of the experiment (if we may judge from those hitherto made in the United States,) would be quite doubtful.—(We trust, however, not long to be so.—*Ed.*)

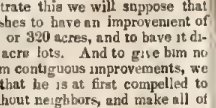
The 320 acres divided into 8 fields of 40 acres each, will require 1760 rods of fence—equal to 5½ miles.

For a prairie in this situation I would recommend a fence of the following description, having seen fences of a similar description in use, and believing them to be as cheap, permanent and handsome as any that can be devised.

The fence will consist of an embankment formed from a ditch upon each side with posts in the centre, to which one, two or three boards may be nailed, according to the height of the embankment.

From the centre of the fence, let a row of stakes be set at the distance of 3½ feet on each side, to mark the lines for the excavation of the ditches—the distance between these stakes being the width of the embankment at the base. From these stakes measure off five feet as the width at top of each ditch and let the ditches be cut with slopes of one to one, or at an angle of forty-five degrees, the earth removed therefrom being placed in the bank, the slopes of which should be the same as those of the ditch. To obtain the quantity of earth necessary to form the bank when settled will require the ditches to be excavated to the depth of about two feet, and to the width of one foot on the bottom.

A section of the bank and ditches, with the posts and boards, or of the fence complete, would appear thus,



It will be seen that the whole elevation from the bottom of the ditch to the top of the bank is 4½ feet; and from the natural surface 2½ feet.

The best mode of digging the ditches and raising the bank will readily suggest itself to most farmers. The only tools necessary are the prairie plough, the spade and the shovel. The sods should be placed upon the outside of the bank with the grass in, so as to prevent its washing. A few months after the bank has thus been thrown up (if at the proper season of the year,) it should be thickly sown with blue grass seed or the seed of some other grass which will grow well in this situation, and the sod which will soon be formed will effectually prevent the sides of the bank and ditches from crumbling or washing.

But before the bank is built, let a line of posts or stakes be set in the centre, at the distance of 6 feet apart, and rising to the height of 2 or 2½ feet above the top of it. These posts or stakes should be in size about 2 by 3 inches, so that each one would contain about 3 feet board measure. To these stakes two boards, (in ordinary cases,) together 1½ foot in width, should be strongly nailed, thus completing the fence.

The expense of such a fence at this time would be about as follows, to wit:

1760 rods of embankment and ditches, *a* 25 cents,	$440 00
58,080 feet B. M. fence and posts, *a* $20 per M. feet,	1161 60
Nails and workmanship, &c.,	100 00
Total,	$1701 60

This estimate, which I admit to be low, but which I fully believe is sufficient to do the work, amounts to $5,32 per acre for the whole 320 acres. But this is by no means to be understood as altogether necessary, for it is not customary upon prairie farms to subdivide the land into lots of the small size of 40 acres. By increasing the size of the lots, the expense could of course be greatly diminished.

The cost of erecting buildings, would certainly be greater than in a situation nearer timber; but when it is understood how cheap hauling can be done with a *prairie team*, (6 or 7 yoke of oxen,) and such a sled or waggon as is generally used for this purpose, the difference will be found to be much less than is generally supposed.

The cultivation of timber upon such a farm, should be one of the first things attended to; and the older settlers of the country can testify in what an incredibly short time it grows large enough to be of great use for fencing and for fuel. The expense of fuel would be much increased in such a location over an ordinary one; but as coal could be conveniently obtained in many places, and this, or wood, could be hauled at a season of the year when little else would be done, and as houses would of course be constructed with reference to the greatest economy in fuel, this would not prove a very serious obstacle.

I believe that the quantity of prairie land in the State is very small, which would be 15 or even 10 miles from timber. But in the first settlement of these extensive prairies, the attention of the settlers will unquestionably be turned to the raising of cattle, horses, sheep, and other kinds of stock, as their principal business, and very large fields will generally be made so as to reduce the cost of fencing. In this way the cost per acre of making large farms will be reduced probably to less than half what I have placed it at, so that the entire cost of the land, fencing the same, and breaking it for the first crop, would not exceed *six dollars* per acre.

I have extended my remarks upon this subject much further than I intended when I commenced, and further perhaps than was at all necessary; but its importance, and the anxiety that I feel to have public attention properly directed to it, must be my excuse.

Millions of acres of the finest land that the sun ever shone upon, not inconvenient to market, and with no fault but the want of timber, yet remain unimproved in our State; and it is the duty as well as the interest of every citizen, to endeavor by plain statements of facts to procure the settlement of these at as early a period as practicable. Sooner or later they must, and will be improved. Sooner or later the extensive and highly cultivated farms on these vast prairies will excite the wonder and admiration of travellers from every quarter of the globe. Not many years can pass away, before "flocks and herds and fields of waving grain," will give a new aspect to a country so much undervalued, and give the "Sucker State" an undoubted right to the highest rank.

WM. GOODING.

Lockport, March, 1841.

For the Union Agriculturist.

ROCKFORD, March 15th, 1841.

Mr. Editor, * * * * * * * * *

Several others have expressed a desire to subscribe, and probably will, as soon as they can conveniently command the needful. So far as I have ascertained the feelings of the friends of Agricultural improvement in this vicinity, all appear to be favorably disposed towards your paper, so far as they have perused it.

Winnebago Co. Society.—We have formed no Ag. Soc. in this co. as yet; but a public meeting is now notified by our county commissioners, (at the instigation of our committee,) to be held at the court house, on the second day of the sitting of the Circuit Court, (9th April,) when I think we shall succed in organizing a society; and you will probably get a report of our doings.

I have prepared a pencil sketch of my full blood "Irish Beauty" at twelve months old—which I send you, that if you think best, you may give the representation in a portrait in your paper. It is my first attempt at drawing; but I think (as do those to whom I have shown it, who have compared it with the animal) it is a faithful and striking representation of the sow. It is drawn on a scale of one inch to the foot—and is in size *very near* correct to represent her size, viz: 5ft 3in long, 2 ft. 4 in. high—depth of shoulder 1 ft 9 in.—I had intended to say something upon the management of swine, but must defer it. I will however at this time send you a recipe to cure colic in horses, which I have tried upon hundreds, without one failure to cure.

My Young Durham and Clay Bull, Sir William Wallace, at 21 months old, measures 6 ft. 10 in. from root of horns to root of tail, 6 ft. 4 in. girth; 4 ft. 7 in. high; 6 ft. 10 in. around brisket and shoulders; 22 in. across hips; 4 ft. 6 in. from one hip to the other around the buttock; 6 ft. 4 in. around flanks; 22 in. around the arm; and 8 in. below the knee; 3 ft. 1 in. around neck; body roan; head and shoulders red—is rather low in flesh, having been wintered out with other stock. Can some of your correspondents give the dimensions of a better one in all points? I like to see age, color, weight, measure and condition.

But my time is expired, and in haste I will subscribe myself Your Obt. Servant.

J. S. NORTON.

NOTE.—We are much indebted to Mr. N for his interest in this paper, and for his efficient aid as a correspondent and in procuring subscribers. We are the more indebted to him, as what he has done has been from pure interest in the cause, not having had the pleasure of any acquaintance or correspondence with him, except through the paper. His recipe is most welcome, tested as it has been with 12 years experience. From our numerous correspondents we learn that one great recommendation of the paper is, that it furnishes valuable cures for diseases in animals, with instructions for their management. This department we should like much to have enlarged by judicious original communications. And in this it is particularly important that our correspondents be careful in making their statements. In every instance we wish they would give the length of time the recipe may have been used. Should a subscriber be misled by the paper, and by a misstatement lose a valuable horse or cow, he would never feel satisfied with himself for having taken it.

For the Union Agriculturist.

LIVINGSTON, Clark co., March 24th, 1841.

THE RIGHT WAY.

Dear Sir,—I will inform you that I have received the third number of the Union Agriculturist and Western Prairie Farmer, which I am pleased with; believing as I do, that we need such a paper published in our own State. I intend to sustain it first by sending you one dollar, and next by sending you some facts of my own experience in farming.

Red Clover and Wheat; a 'Young Farmer' answered.—I saw in the first number of your valuable paper, some inquiries concerning red clover and wheat by a Young Farmer, which I have not seen answered. My experience in both wheat and red clover in the State of Illinois has been somewhat extensive from 1831 to the present time. My practice is to put my ground in good order and sow my wheat the last week in September, one bushel and a half per acre. I have tried sowing sooner and later, but the time above named appears to suit this climate, thirty nine degrees North latitude.—Red clover does well here. You may sow it in the winter, where you have sown wheat or rye—it will do to sow in the spring with oats, or you may sow it by itself. I sowed a piece of wheat in the fall of 1837—the ensuing winter I sowed my clover seed on it. I have been mowing it twice every year since, and always have gotten an abundant crop. I have not been particular in weighing all my crops. In 1839 we weighed off the first crop—cut three tons per acre, and of the second two tons per acre, making five tons per acre in one year. When we cut for hay, it is when something like half of the blossoms are dead. The second crop is most commonly for seed that we let get perfectly ripe. The first crop of clover is the best hay a horse or cow can have. Last summer my hogs kept fat on clover.

Mr. Wright you can dispose of this as you see fit by puting it in form or rejecting it. It is the first time I ever wrote anything for publication. Yours with respect.

JAMES PLASTER.

NOTE.—The above is in first rate "form" for publication; and although it may be the first letter Mr. P. has written for publication, we hope it will not be the last. Such communications were what we asked for and expected when the appeal was given to the practical farmer on the first page of the Vol. Many a "young farmer" just commencing on the prairies will be thankful for such information; and we hope the farmers in the central and Southern counties will be free to communicate the results of their experiments and observations.

We feel it to be impossible to recommend too strongly to our friends, the adoption of Mr. P's. course, as given in the first sentence.

For the Union Agriculturist.

FOUNTAIN GREEN, Hancock County Ill.

Dear Sir,—I have inquired of Mr. Childress, if he was pleased with your paper. His reply was "I have received but two Nos., but must say, that I have received the worth of my dollar."

As regards my views on this subject, I will only say, that I am surprised that every farmer does not take a paper devoted to Agriculture. In your paper, we have a description of the best improved stock—the best *farmers'* experience in raising stock—the best and most approved kinds of grain—valuable cures for all diseases in stock &c., and nearly every thing that would be of great benefit to the farmer.—I say, *Farmers subscribe*—chew less tobacco, by one single dollar; and send to John S. Wright, Chicago for his Agricultural Paper.

One word *more*, and I will cease troubling you. The description you give us of the Berkshire Pig, and the pair that has lately been exhibited in this place, has taken the shine off from our certain something that are styled Hogs. Tell some of your correspondents that have raised the Berkshires as well as Scrubs, to show the difference in expense in raising the live Berkshires and Scrubs. I think that if they would make a true statement on this subject; death would soon visit those long-nosed, shadow-like racers, *called* pork. As far as my experience is concerned in raising stock, I would say, Farmers, pay $25, for a pair of Berkshire Pigs; and as soon as you can conveniently, kill off the "natives." The latter will eat themselves up in two winters.

My dear sir, I have not 'talents for writing articles for your paper—I have a young son, that I intend to educate to make a farmer of him, and I presume he will furnish articles for you, that will be worth reading. (I have a few pair of Russia and Berkshire Pigs. I take my boy out occasionally to look at them.)—Should my son ever write for your paper the subject will be, "advantage of raising good stock," Pardon me, Yours &c.

LYMAN PRENTIS.

NOTE.—Mr. P. *can* write for publication, as is abundantly evident; and though we shall hope to hear from his son, whom he is educating for a farmer, (as more farmers should do,) we think "A lard in the hand is worth two in the bush"; and will therefore bold on to the father till we hear from the son.

The many who have sent us similar excuses are requested to apply the above in answer; and those who think of them, or are intending to send anything of the kind, will please take the reply in advance, and set down at once and write us an interesting communication. Variety in our paper is necessary of course; and if it can be given by having a large amount of communications from which to select, two pages will be sufficient for extracts as the paper is now published; the rest should be original.

For the Union Agriculturist.

BREAKING PRAIRIE.

MR. SECRETARY,

Dear Sir,—I had long since intended to have redeemed my promise, to communicate to you such observations as may have occurred to me in my agricultural pursuits, and may be deemed interesting or useful to the farming community; but circumstances have hitherto prevented me.

Prairie Farming, its difficulties.—When I commenced making a farm on the prairie, I found myself engaged in a task by no means without its difficulties and perplexities. Whatever I had learned of farming at the East, had to be principally learned over again here. It is true, that making fences, erecting buildings, &c., are matters of not so much difficulty, nor is there any thing very peculiar in the process here; but it is in opening the farm, in cultivating the soil, and in the whole process of raising the crop, that Western experience is wanted. I looked in vain for the result of well tested and enlightened experiments; and I sensibly—deeply felt, the want of just such a journal as I hope your paper will prove. It is true I found myself surrounded by a class of enlightened, intelligent, industrious and prosperous farmers, of whom I embraced every opportunity to learn what I might of my new business; nor did I experience any want of kindness on their part to inform me. What was the result?

Breaking Prairie.—Of course among the first objects, was to get some prairie broken; and to that subject were my inquiries directed. What was the best season of the year in which to break prairie? How deep should it be broken? With what team could it be most profitably done, taking into the account the expense and quality of the work? In answer to all of these questions, I received answers differing very widely from each other, from men

of perhaps equal experience and intelligence. In reply to the first inquiry, some said commence breaking as soon as the ground is sufficiently dry in the spring, but be sure that you stop the plough by the first of July. Others assured me that no consideration should induce me to break except in the month of June; whilst others recommend July as well as June; and many assured me that breaking might profitably be continued till September, should circumstances permit. An equal contrariety of opinion was observed in answer to the other inquiries. What was to be done amid such a variety of opinion—such a multitude of contradictory advice? Yet even here I found safety in a multitude of counsel. I pursued my inquiries and ascertained the reasons assigned by each for the opinion which he gave, and found that each conclusion was deduced from a reasonable cause; but without going into the particular experience of each one, I will state briefly the conclusions to which I have arrived from my own experience and observation, assisted by what I have been able to learn from others.

For a Spring Crop.—If it be intended to raise a spring crop the first year, and especially corn, it is advisable to start the plough as soon as the grass has started sufficiently to afford a *good bite*. By this time, in ordinary seasons, the ground will be sufficiently dry, and the plough may be kept going as late as it will do to put in the crop. The crop will be found to be best on the land first broken, but the next year it will be found that the land last broken is in much the best condition.

For a Fall Crop.—If a fall crop is intended, the breaking should not commence till about the first of June, and may be continued till the middle of August; and in very dry seasons, perhaps a month later. It will almost invariably be found, that the land first broken will afford the best crop; and nearly twice the quantity may be expected from land broken in June, that will be realized from land broken in September; so that it will be readily perceived, if the time can be otherwise profitably employed, it is not advisable to continue breaking so late as that time.

Crop on the Sod.—If it is proposed to raise a spring or fall crop on the sod, the prairie should, by all means, be broken as deep as possible, say from four to five inches at least. All who have had any experience in prairie farming, are well aware that the sward is composed of a strong tenacious mass of grass roots firmly interwoven together, near the surface of which there is comparatively but very little earthy substance to be found, and that little, so firmly compressed and bound up, that it can afford but very little nourishment to the growing crop. Hence the necessity of ploughing deep, in order to obtain sufficient mould to sustain the crop, will be readily perceived. It is true that it requires a very considerable more force to break deep than it does to break shallow; perhaps more than would be at first imagined; but then you are compensated for that, by the greater ease and facility with which the land is ploughed the second time; because if the land is broken shallow, it is necessary to go below the first breaking, when you cross-plough or split the furrows, (which is perhaps the better practice,) and hence you are compelled to cut off all of the old roots again, while they are yet sufficiently strong to afford considerable resistance.

If no crop is intended to be grown the first year upon the piece broken, the team should not be started till about the first of June; nor if practicable should it be continued longer than about six weeks. And I believe it is universally admitted, that land broken in June decays much faster, and a better crop may be observed, even for several years, than on land broken much earlier or later. The two principal reasons for this are, that the grass is at this time growing with full vigor, and the land is then as dry as at any other season of the year. It must be borne in mind, however, that these observations will only apply to our ordinary seasons; for it sometimes happens that June is a very wet month, as in 1833, when I am informed that land broken in August, which was a dry month, proved better than that broken in June.

J. D. Caton.

To be continued.

For the Union Agriculturist.

Grass Plains, Sangamon Co., March 29, 1841.

Dear Sir,—I have received the 1st, 2d, and 3d Nos. of the Union Agriculturist, and I am much pleased with the style and matter. I hope every enterprising and intelligent farmer of Illinois, into whose hands your paper may fall, may become a subscriber; and will feel the necessity and importance of agricultural information, and exert their influence to induce their neighbors to do likewise; recollecting there is no means by which so much valuable information can be so easily obtained, as through a well conducted agricultural paper; and the information thus imparted to the sons and daughters of the Husbandman, should alone be sufficient to induce every farmer to become a subscriber to an agricultural work.

Information necessary to the farmer.—It is a common saying, that any one can make a farmer who possesses industry with economy. It is true that industry, with economy and good judgment, will secure to a man a comfortable support, and often a large estate; but if a man wishes to excel as an agriculturist, to cultivate his lands in the best advantage, and to realize the greatest amount of profit from those lands, whether in produce or stock, and that blooded or common, it is of the utmost importance that he should add to his own experience the experience of others, to enable him to rise to respectability in his avocations; ever bearing in mind, that no one has ever risen to distinction or eminence as an agriculturist, without combining *book knowledge* with experience and industry. I trust your appeal to practical farmers will be responded to by numerous communications, giving their experience and discoveries, and mode of cultivating the different grains, grasses and roots, together with their mode of treating live stock.

Pedigrees.—I discovered in the first number of the Agriculturist, an invitation to breeders of fine stock, to send in a list of their stock, with pedigrees for publication in your paper, to which reference may hereafter be had. Having been engaged since 1834 in endeavoring to improve my stock of cattle, I embrace this opportunity to send you a list of those purchased and bred by myself since that time, which you can use as you think best. I am very much gratified that breeders have such an opportunity of recording the pedigrees of their stock, and hope all will embrace it. In conclusion I would say, that I trust your efforts to advance the agricultural interests of this State, by the dissemination of useful information, may be crowned with great success.

Very respectfully, your ob't. serv't.,

Jas. N. Brown.

Note.—We receive with pleasure this first letter for publication from old Sangamon, and hope hereafter they will be neither few nor far between. It has had the reputation of being one of the best farming counties in the State, and having been settled for a number of years, farmers in the newer counties have a right to expect valuable instructions from its intelligent farmers. Mr. B. must not stop with this, but give some instructions himself for the treatment of live stock. There is a certain neighbor of his, from whom we have been daily expecting a communication; but for some reason or other it has not reached us yet. Will Mr. B. please ascertain the cause.

The pedigrees furnished by Mr. B., will be given in this and several of the ensuing Nos. They are too long for one No.

For the Union Agriculturist.

THE FARMERS' HOME.

"Measure life
By its true worth, the comfort it affords."

Cold winter, like a bird of passage, has gone to other climes, leaving many traces of its blighting breath, and the wide sweep of its great white wings. Spring, the mother of vegetation, now broods o'er hill and glen, imparting genial warmth, and pouring gladness into many hearts.

I stood near a farm house door, at early dawn, and witnessed all I say. A lovely fruit tree bent its pendant boughs, almost to the window of the dwelling. High perched on this, a feathered songster poured forth sweetest lays: A little beyond, was another, and yet further, on all sides were many more. The curling smoke gently rose above the dwelling,—the sun had first thrown its crimson tints upon the distant hill, and all nature seemed to smile at his approach. Slowly, one by one, the herd arose from their beds, stretching and snuffing the morning air, then moved off upon the spacious field. The geese began their chatter, the hens their cackle, and the whole feathered tribe cooed, and cawed, and gobled forth their joy of heart. Near by, was a group of happy lambs, gambling in the meadow, from hillock to fen, as though unable to express their excess of glee; while their mothers in graver mood, nibbled the tender grass by their sides. Other and equal signs of gladness filled the scene. Said I, if *envy* could ever be *honorable*, one might well be jealous of the happiness of that man who is lord of all these.

I entered the dwelling. The family were at their morning meal—wholesome and plain, but to the palate unspoiled by culinary art—more delicious than richest dainties. No fawning sycophant here—no hollow hearted guest, to spy out what is done, and report what he may think amiss. No formal show, or parade with what there is. All is decent, tidy, and in place. The honored matron, and the venerable sire, in airs of pleasantry, plainly show signs of sweet satisfaction, as the little group of children, seated on either side in order, partake of the rich bounty of their parent's toil.

Now, each one is seated with the Holy Word in hand—all is silence and attention, as though to listen to the voice of God. They sing a hymn of grateful praise, and bow the suppliant knee to Him who gave them being, and crowns their days with blessings. Spirits unseen seem to hover round, anxious to own their kindred spirits, as members of the same brotherhood, and prospective members of the great family above. Here is happiness; and the heart that does not dilate with rapture, amid scenes like this, is unfit for the society of earth or Heaven.

The busy day begins, and each repairs to his allotted task with blithesome heart. The spinning wheel begins to buz, and Nancy sings in her own measured step, winding a thread, as time winds away. The kitchen is adjusted, and the well filled pot, prepared to boil. Puss lies stretched upon the floor, purring herself to sleep, and the prattling children are full of glee, pranks and play, in doors and out.

Away goes James with his team—the hills side rings with his *haw, gee*, and the plough moves slow but on its steady course, leaving the mellow earth, to the genial sun, whose twinkling rays dazzle on all the plain below.

The noon-horn is a welcome sound, and even the dumb beast seems to know the signal for his release. How sweet the relish for the noon-day meal to laboring man and beast! Now, the sun gently descends behind the Western hills, leaving his golden hue upon the cloud. Evening chills come on, and the damp dew is fast falling, as the ploughmen come whistling homeward—well-timed with the discordant croaking of the frogs in the pond near by. The night-hawk screams aloft, and the whippowil joins the chorus in nature's chant to the great God of all. Here is the Farmers' home, and here is Happiness.

Filius Coloni.

Michigan City, March, 1841.

For the Union Agriculturist.

Kishwaukee, Ill., April 12th, 1841.

IMPORTANCE OF AGR. SOCIETIES.

Friend Wright,—I fear that you have been disappointed in your expectation of support to the 'Agriculturist,' from the district of Country, or Counties, not particularly interested in the Corporate Act of the U. A. S. But to my mind there are obvious reasons why we have so little spirit in the cause, and have added so little to the subscription list of this commendable effort to supply this State with what we need in the way of correct Agricultural information, to secure to us the full reward of our industry.

You have within the Counties included in the Incorporation, a well organized Society, with able and influential Officers, who will direct the public to the subject, and who will require the farmers to be informed upon their own calling, or suffer the imputation of being behind the age of agricultural information.

On the other hand we have nothing to excite either the pride or ambition of the farmer, and he settles down content, that he knows as much as his neighbor; and the only mental reflection with him is, that he gets poorly rewarded for his labor in the present low price of produce. There is nothing to agitate the subject of Agriculture among us—No thing to excite those feelings of emulation which are the main springs to enterprise, and not only fill the granhouses of the farmer with the proceeds of abundant crops; but add immeasurably to his mental wealth and happiness.

In a word, tho' we have among us, men anxious as yourself to build up the great interests of Agriculture, still even they are powerless in their influence among the multitude, for the want of a concentrating object, apparant to the vision of all—a nucleus around which to gather & acquire strength. Such an influence is alone concentrated in a well organized society, with Annual Fairs, which when well conducted are sure to produce the most permanent benefits to a community.

Every farmer then becomes a portion of, and identified with the community in which he lives; and he must in the exercise of his calling make use of his mental as well as physical powers in self defence. If he raises fine stock, he must be able to give its origin to a certain degree, and the means used in producing favourable results.

To say that he has raised a very large crop of wheat or corn, or any other staple without being able to explain the process, would place him in the same dilemma of the Quack, who not comprehending the original disease of his patient, administered his nostrum by *guess*, and was fortunate enough to cure; but when the question arose as to the peculiar aptitude of his treatment, to the actual physical system of his patient and his symptoms of disease, he was compelled in plead ignorance, as to the process of his healing art.

I have often in travelling through this country met with extraordinary experiments in agriculture, applied with perfect ignorance as to cause or effect; and to their authors they were but the mere accident of the season. Now if the subject of agricultural improvement was before the community as it ought to be in this country, every inch of a man's pretensions to having developed any new principle, would be canvassed and tested by his neighbors. Several of us have called the public of Winnebago co. together to-morrow for the purpose of trying their spirit in immediately forming a County Society, under the general Law relative to Agricultural Societies. I trust that we in the North, at least, shall awake from our slumbers, and organize Societies in every county. We shall never advance unless we do.

Western Farmers not permanent.—One of the great difficulties to encounter in that part of domestic husbandry which consists in adding permanent improvements to our farms, is the intuitive principle of locomotion in the Yankee character, and which we suffer more from in the West than any where else.

True it is the main source of peopling our country; but it is carried too far. Every man in the West is ready to sell his farm; and the number are very small who expect to live and die upon the farms they occupy now, and their improvements are often from that cause made temporary.

The past has been too full of speculating projects; and land has been purchased more with reference to some ideal view, as to its speculative value *in the prospective*, than to its agricultural capacity. We have been all wrong and we must come to the sober reality—to *work our land*; and if we cannot support our families and prosper as a community, we may rest assured that we shall make no very great speculation in selling out our farms; for *if we starve* upon them, others will be wary of purchasing an *expensive pauperism*. In haste yours,

George W. Lee.

Note.—It is too true, that the old to this paper, that was expected from several of the Northern counties, has not been received; but other portions of the West, particularly the central counties of this State, have done well.

We hope ere long to see a Society organized, not only in every county in the North, but in every county in the whole State. And we trust the State Society will not be forgotten. It will not interfere with the management of a Society to have it made auxiliary to the State Society; and connecting all the Societies by means of it, will concentrate action, and create a bond of union to the agricultural brotherhood.

For the Union Agriculturist

Avon, Kane co. Ill. March 15, 1841.

BEES AND HIVES.

Dear Sir,—On the subject of the hive, I might say that I have so little experience, that I feel myself excused from the task of trying to improve the one represented in the March No. of the U. A.; but, wishing to obtain correct information as to the real character of bees, and also the kind of hives which would conduce most to their comfort, and convenience, and at the same time be the most profitable to the owner, I will venture to state what I have observed; and from those observations, try to draw some conclusions as to the best form for a hive; claiming at the same time that this subject is not fairly in the range of "*tools and machinery*;" and also reserving to myself, my heirs, etc., a good feast of honey from each and every individual who shall *successfully* use my improved hive, when called for.

Bees' natural habits.—Bees seem to be governed entirely by instinct, without forming any habits, as most of our domestic animals do; therefore, if we would use them, we must conform to their peculiar modes of operation, rather than try to make them conform to our views. To do this properly, we should understand as much of their true character as possible. And to understand their character, we must not only observe them in the hive but in the forest where they select their own hive, to ascertain whether there is any peculiar form, or circumstance, that directs their choice. If there are any points that are similar in the natural hives, we should conclude that it is the effect of choice; and the artificial hive should conform in those points: if for instance the bee generally selects a tree with the entrance to the cavities on the sunny side, it would seem to indicate that the hive should be thus placed; and the situation of the entrance as to the main body of the cavity occupied, should be observed and followed in forming the artificial hive, whether at the top or bottom of the cavity; and so all the peculiarities that appear to be general should be followed.

The wild bee.—My opportunities for observing the bee in the forest have been limited; but what few observations I have made I will throw out, in hopes that some person who has had greater opportunity will continue the subject, and correct such errors as I may make.

I have observed that for the entrance, the South and East are most frequently selected, the West occasionally, and rarely the North—that the main part of the cavity occupied, is

below the entrance,—and only in one instance have I known or heard of a "tunnel," or long hollow limb being selected as an entrance, and never an instance of the cavity being open at the bottom, though the cavity frequently extends far below any part of the comb. By the way, it seems to me that ventilation will be but poorly performed by a hole in the bottom of the hive, without a corresponding hole at the top; as this operation is only necessary when the air becomes tainted or otherwise unfit for respiration; and in such cases it generally becomes lighter by rarification, or having the heavier gasses absorbed, and is forced upward, by the greater weight of the surrounding atmosphere.

I have also observed that the honey at the top of the hive is richer and heavier than at the bottom, tho' it is a fact that the comb is whiter and more tender at the bottom—that when the bees are engaged in collecting honey in fine weather, the deposite at the bottom is thin and watery—if bad weather comes on, this their honey disappears and is probably worked over and carried up—that the honey contained in the cells not closed or waxed over, is insipid.

The Moth or Worm entirely destroyed my bees in the State of N. Y. I tried all the different ways there recommended to save them, and watched their operations closely. I found that the moth commenced operations between sun-down and dark, and continued till late in the evening—that their object was to enter the hive—that they generally entered by lighting on the stand near the entrance, and immediately in rear of a bee that was entering—folded their wings close, and assumed as nearly as possible the form of a bee, and followed their file leader into the hive, and were not detected unless the bee in front of the moth turned to the right or left to allow a bee that was coming out to pass, when the moth would be met by the bee coming out, and driven back, or caught and punished for his temerity by death—that the eggs of the moth were deposited inside, at the bottom of the hive in some dark corner—that when a moth or other intruding insect was seized by a bee, others rushed to its assistance, when the intruder was dragged to the edge of the stand, and all tumbled to the ground together. I have observed that bees in hives that were cracked from bottom to top, would enter mostly at the top, and come out at the bottom; that bees that light on the stand to enter at the bottom, frequently stop to rest while those that light at the top enter immediately.

The engraving of the hive, our artist has not been able to prepare for this No. The remainder of Mr. Churchill's communication, is therefore necessarily left for the next.

EXTRACTS AND COMMENTS.

Berkshire Hogs.—Experience is an excellent teacher—as I have been taught a little I will impart it to others engaged in breeding pigs. Great care is necessary with this breed, to guard against the temptation to use them too young. They are so large and fine at eight or ten months old, that many suppose they are plenty big enough to breed. It is a great mistake. The boar should scarcely be used until twelve months old, and then but sparingly until eighteen. A sow should never be allowed to have pigs until a year old, and then only in warm weather—and it would be better that they were sixteen months old—nature cannot be forced with impunity. The period of gestation in a sow is *exactly* sixteen weeks. Now of my experience—I had two sows last fall on the passage from Albany, got with pig at about four months old. On the first day of January, one of the coldest of the season, one dropped seven and the other two, and as the sows had little or no milk, and were too young to mind their pigs, all died in spite of all that human care could do.

Yesterday, another sow, just one year old, dropped eight pigs. She is one of the kindest, most careful, and sensible hogs I ever saw; and as the weather is warm, the pigs are all as lively as could be wished. It is characteristic of Berkshires, that they are great breeders, and fine milkers. But do not be tempted to use them too young. But above all things, do not be tempted to do without them. Solon Robinson.

Lake C. H., Io., April 2.

Gen W. Lee, Esqr. of Kishwaukee, writes us dated 25th April, and says he sees he was appointed an officer (Vice Pres.) in a State Society, and wishes to know his duties, &c. He seems to be performing them, so far as Winnebago co. is concerned, as well as if he knew all about them. But we are glad of the opportunity of calling the attention of the V. P.'s more particularly to their duties.

Two V. P.'s are elected in each judicial district; and according to Art. V., Sec. 2 of the constitution published in the Jan. No., they are required to attend particularly to the organization of a society, auxiliary to the State Society, and to procure the delivery of agricultural addresses, in each county in their district. It will therefore be seen at once, that if the V. P.'s were to perform their duties thoroughly, we should soon have an efficient organization throughout the State; and the cause of agricultural improvement would move forward with giant strides.

This Society has as yet no charter; and according to the present plan, which is fully explained in the constitution, no charter seems to be necessary. But should it be thought best to have one, it will be granted, without doubt, at the first session of the Legislature.

Every auxiliary society is left free to its own management; and as it will therefore not interfere with its individual operations, and as uniting them all under one head would give oneness to the system, we hope no society will be organized without being made auxiliary.

Jas. T. Gifford, Esq., of Elgin writes as follows:

"I had intended to have forwarded you another article on the Beet Sugar, for the May No., of the Agriculturist; but as I am preparing my apparatus for further experiments in the manufacture, which I purpose to enter upon within a few days, I have concluded to defer communicating upon the process, until the next or June No. I wish to give the results of actual experiments; and although my beets were left out too late in the fall, in consequence of which some of them were injured by frost, I shall do the best I can with them, and communicate the result. Should you attend the meeting at Geneva on the 28th, I hope to show you some kind of a sample. I approve of the proposition made by Esq. Caton, of entering in rivalry on the culture of a piece with beets. The same course would I think be highly useful in many other branches of agriculture. Enclosed is one dollar, and you may enter my name as a competitor; and I would propose that whatever is paid in, over five dollars, be appropriated to the purchase of agricultural books for the Society. In ascertaining the amount of crop, I would suggest that the beets be well trimmed, suitably cleaned, and weighed by some disinterested person.

Respectfully yours,
J. T. Gifford."

If we are ever absent from a meeting of the U. A. S., it will most certainly be from causes entirely beyond our control. Several from Chicago will attend the meeting at Geneva.

Mr. Gifford is the only one who has sent his dollar in the beet competition, as proposed in the last No. The time has been so short since the proposition was published, that most have not had an opportunity of sending their names. We hope yet to receive many. Several attending the meeting here, spoke of entering their names; but in the hurry they forgot to give in their dollar. Please send them forward. If sent any time before the 1st June, it will probably answer.

W. S. Wait, Esq. of Greenville, Bond co., writes us that the farmers in that section of Illinois are much depressed with regard to our State indebtedness. Now we believe most fully in the old maxim—"What can't be cured, must be endured;" and if it is unwise for individuals, because they have become embarrassed, to give up without attempting to extricate themselves, much more is it for a State, or for any portion of its citizens to be discouraged. Knowing this feeling was prevalent in some parts of the State, that there were hard times before us, so far as taxation was concerned, we have been preparing an article on the subject, which cannot be inserted in this No. for want of room. Many of our subscribers will consider the subject foreign to an agricultural paper, or we would insert Mr. W.'s letter entire, and others on the same subject. The article prepared by us is a mere statement of figures.

After complimenting the Society upon its paper, and promising us his aid, which heretofore had been given to Eastern papers, Mr. W. adds the following:

"The cultivation of the English grasses and of root crops, are too much neglected here, as well as in other parts of the State. We find that timothy is the most sure and profitable grass here; and so far as my very limited experience extends, I should recommend the common English flat turnip, as the most valuable root for feeding out to stock of any kind. I have not been a victim to all the agricultural humbugs; but I think that I may safely caution brother farmers in the middle and Southern districts of the State, against placing too much confidence in any experiment with Baden or with Dutton corn. I think it a great desideratum in farming, that we should be found willing to communicate to the public, occasionally, the result of an *unsuccessful* experiment, carefully noting what share in the result may be attributable to natural causes, and what portion to neglect. How many of us are honest enough to do it?

"Wishing you all the success which your enterprise merits, and you need not desire more, I remain, your friend,
William S. Wait.
Greenville, Bond co. March 2, 1841."

AN ADDRESS

Delivered by Solon Robinson, Esqr., *before the Union Agricultural Society, at Chicago, on the 28th April*, 1841.

My friends! or rather, I would say, brethren,—a blessed union of brothers, devoted to a blessed cause—to improvement in one of the most blessed pursuits on earth. And for that purpose you have united yourselves under the excellent motto, "In union there is strength"—and your object, "to improve the soil and the mind." Well, in the language of the father of American freedom, "I know of no pursuit in which more real and important service can be rendered our country, than improvement in agricultural pursuits."

But before I proceed, allow me to explain why I, a stranger to most of you, have set myself up as a teacher among you. To many of you I am perhaps known by name, as one who is ardently devoted to that cause which shall tend to improve the condition, and elevate the standing of the cultivators of American soil. And although at all times willing to lend all my energies to that object, I reluctantly accepted the flattering invitation to address your Society, because I know my own ability. However capable of instructing or amusing my fellow-laborers with my pen, I am unused to *making a speech*—I therefore claim your kindest indulgence; my promise is not to make my present effort interesting, but only that "I will try."

You have met here, I hope, not for the sole purpose of listening to what the humble individual before you has to say, but for mutual instruction and improvement. Let us enquire then, how the greatest good can be done to the greatest number? If there is strength in your union, how shall that strength be used? Surely not for our individual aggrandizement. No! For I ammorally certain, from my own knowledge of some of the leading individuals of your Society, that the great desire of their hearts is upon a scale as noble, and grand, and broad as the great plain which stretches away before us farther than the eye can reach.

Cast your eyes with me for a moment over this great natural field, and fancy if you can, what untold riches lie hid beneath its surface.

Is it not an object worthy the highest ambition of man, to lend his energies towards the promoting of a cause, the object of which is, to turn all this unproductive native wildness into cultivated fields of golden grain, and to cover nature's great pasture with lowing herds, and consequently filling up this great space of wild waste, with a population of happy human souls?

This is what we now want. We want to transplant thousands of our hard-toiling brethren, who are sweating away their lives upon the old worn out hills of New England and Europe, and plant them in our great Western garden. And it should be one great object of this Society, to encourage emigration. Not in words alone, but our acts should tend to shew the great benefits to be derived. Plain true statements of the present condition of the country should be published. Show them the thousands of acres of land as rich as heart could wish, lying waste all over our country. It is true that the "first choice" is occupied, but what of that. Let industry and economy, such as may be seen upon the plains of Flanders, or among the bogs of Ireland, and cliffs of England, old or New, be devoted to the worst land in our country, and its occupants would soon become independent—or comparatively so; for absolute independence is neither attainable or desirable—all classes must live by and for each other. But there is a degree of comparative independence that the cultivators of a rich soil always may possess, and which is within the reach of every citizen of this Republic, who is of sound body and mind, and who has a disposition to claim it, particularly in a region where nature has made such ample provision for the new beginner. But there has, in my opinion, been a fatal error committed by many of the first emigrants to this country, in an over anxiety to accumulate too much of a good thing.

It is evident that no man can cultivate such large tracts as many have been anxious to possess, of such a soil as ours. It were better by far that our uncultivated lands were occupied by hardy and industrious laborers, whose every stroke of plough, hoe or spade, would add intrinsic value to it, than to lie dormant, waiting some hoped for rise in value. It is a subject well worthy of our careful inquiry, whether our greediness has not driven many good citizens to look further, without faring better, while we have fared worse. Our settlements are too sparse, and we ought to use all honorable means to invite emigrants to fill up our waste lands. To do this we must be more liberal.

Scarce as timber now appears in our prairie country, if it could be fairly distributed, it would be sufficient to increase our population to ten times its present numbers. Is there any one will presume to doubt that that would fail to increase the value of land to ten times its present intrinsic value? And there are other benefits that would attend upon an increase of our population, which we cannot enjoy while dwelling so isolated, scattered over such a wide surface of country, which is far—far more important than boundless wealth.

I need not tell you what benefits I allude to; for the little monitor in the breast of every parent whose location has prevented him from partaking of the benefits of the village school, will speak to him in tones that he cannot keep still, and tell him that his children are growing up into manhood, destitute of the first rudiments of a common school education.

He cannot hide that "still small voice" with the soothing salve to the mind of the miser, that he is "Lord of all I survey," while he stretches his eye over his vast domain of a thousand uncultivated and unproductive acres. Be assured, such a man owns too much land. It would have been far better for him, individually, and far better for society, if he had "claimed" no more land than he needed for cultivation, and that the remainder had been occupied by some of the thousand emigrants who have passed by in search of a "wider opening" further West.

Are there any here who suppose that all this waste land will forever lie waste? Let them look back to their own native hills—there is no waste and useless land there; and but a few short years would roll away into eternity, before you might say the same of this country, if an enlightened and liberal course was adopted toward that numerous class who are destined to earn their bread under that primeval malediction upon Adam and his race.

I assert with the utmost sincerity of belief, that the Grand Prairie can, and will be eventually cultivated to good advantage, entirely without timber for fuel, fence, or building. The earth itself will afford the best and cheapest materials for the whole.

Do you imagine that this is too great a change—too improbable ever to be brought about?

Look back a few years. What was this country then? And what may it not be a century hence?

I fancy there are some here, who can look back to the time, for it is but a short stretch of memory, when the *City* of Chicago, consisted of you little stockade, and its handfull of soldiers, and a few humble log cabins around it. And what has wrought this mighty magic change, in the little space of time comprised in the tenth of a century. Is it your most beautiful inland sea whereon ride those great castles moved by steam, which weekly float into your, I am sorry to say, *unfinished* harbour? Is it the enterprise of your merchant princes, or princely merchants?

No—No. Allow me to impress it upon your minds, that all this wonderful change has been wrought more by that humble little machine, which, when a boy, I often went whistling after, than by all the wealth of merchants, or power of steam, or great facilities of navigation, though all these are auxiliaries to the wonderful magician's wand that has converted the wilderness into a city, in so short a space. And would you hear the name of this wonderful machine—it is the Plough. What would have been your city now, if it had not been for this magic wand of the husbandman? Why the sentinel would have still kept watch upon his post, to guard a few Indian traders against surprise from their customers. And occasionally a solitary vessel, wandering over a waste of waters, would have cast her anchor opposite the mouth of your useless and unapproachable river, and after the tedious operation of discharging her little cargo, she would have gone away empty.

But the husbandman came and he looked upon an almost boundless extent of soil, which was not surpassed in fertility by the garden of Eden, and his arts soon drew forth the riches of the earth, and lo! in the place of the lowly cabins, up springs this great and growing emporium of the West. Husbandmen, brother farmers, let us take credit to ourselves, for that which is our due. Remember as you follow the plough, that if it had not been for that, and your humble occupation, the waving grass would have still continued to wave over all this vast field—this rich soil would have still remained unproductive and useless, and this now flourishing city would have been among the unknown things. This is the magic of agricultural improvement. What a mighty blaze hath a little spark kindled. Now, if you have the power to kindle such a blaze from so small a spark, what can you do if you lend your united strength to fan the blaze already kindled. While I am holding up the work of the magician's wand before you, let me carry you magicly forward for fifty years—a period that looks to those youths before me, almost interminable—but to yonder grey beaded father, oh how short.

Can you fancy the time when the plough instead of the autumnal fires, shall have blackened all this green pasture—when the succulent corn and golden wheat shall move where now waves the coarse and useless prairie grass. Can you fancy to yourselves, that if the few little patches of cultivated ground within your district, can have been the moving cause of

raising up all these fine mansions around us in the place of the Indian's wigwam, what will be the effect that will be produced when the whole of this vast expanse before us is brought under the dominion of the plough. Can you fancy to yourselves the time when all the buildings now composing this city, would be hardly sufficient for store houses for the surplus grain of this fertile region! Sir, you need not look at me doubtingly. Will the change from the present in that time be so great as the change from the past to the present has been?

If the improvements in agriculture are permitted to go on—if the spirit that now animates the agricultural community—if the spirit that has brought us together this day shall cont nue to expand for a few years to come as it has for a few years past, your field will continue to expand—your city will continue to expand—your commerce will continue to expand—and you, my friends, yes, you within the short compass of your lives, will become the proudest key holders on earth—for you will hold the keys of the great granary of the world.

Am I enthusiastic? Is my picture overwrought? There are some who will say so. For there are some who fancy that the world is now at the very height of perfection, and that in future, all things must retrograde. But there are those in this assembly that can follow my fancy through coming years, and thro' coming events. There are those here who never stop your mouth when you offer instructions upon their pursuits, with those potent words, "you can't tell me anything about farming. I want none of your book-farming about me." There are those here, who are not only willing to learn, but willing to impart such knowledge as they may posses, to their brethren. It was for the benefit of mutual improvement that your Society was formed. It is for that that you meet together. And there is nothing better calculated to promote agricultural improvements, particularly in a country so sparsely settled, as social intercourse: pleasant agreeable meetings. You become acquainted with one another. You learn something new. You, perhaps, become acquainted with some new and valuable agricultural implement. You see, and seeing is knowing, that there are improved breeds of cattle, sheep and hogs, particularly the latter. For no man, however blind and prejudiced he may be, can look upon the beautiful Berkshire, without acknowledging that he is a superior animal to the long-nosed landpikes of our country.

I feel it to be my duty to urge the fact strongly to your notice here, that I am convinced that this is the first kind of stock that we should attempt to improve. Our country is new and mostly unprovided with comfortable shelters, and suitable keeping for an improved breed of cattle. And our pecuniary means are not generally sufficient to enable us to walk before we creep. But there is no farmer in the bounds of your Society, too poor to provide himself with a pair of pigs. And all have the means of comfortable keeping. And no one would hesitate one moment after he had become acquainted with the improvement. And the only way of making them acquainted, is for those that are already convinced, to take early measures to introduce them to the notice of their doubting neighbors. You may talk to a man until you are hoarse and he is deaf, or you may read to him until you are blind, about the good qualities of improved cattle and hogs, and, I know by experience, that it will not all have so much effect upon him as one view.

Since I have provided myself with Berkshire hogs, I have an easy argument, "Look for yourself." And none look and doubt. All are converted to the belief at once, that a Berkshire hog is no humbug. There are many other good varieties, that are a decided improvement upon the common kind. But all I wish to point out at present, is, that our stock of hogs can be improved easier than any other kind of stock while our country is so new as it is at present.

There are some too proud or obstinate, but few who are too wise to learn. And if you learn no other fact from me this day, I beg you to remember, that such meetings as this are well calculated not only to add to your general information, but to improve the morals of community. If then you had no other object in view, how important is it that you continue thus to persevere in well-doing. Do not be discouraged because you see such a lethargy among the cultivators of the soil. It is so much the more your duty, who are awake to the true interest of our country, to endeavor to rouse up others. We are all creatures of excitement. We require something to stimulate us to action. Let the ambition to do good to your fellow-laborers stimulate you to excite others. You have already taken the first and most important step towards spreading knowledge among the agricultural community of Northern Illinois. You have established, and I ardently hope you will support, a spirited agricultural paper. There is nothing that can, that has, that will, still continue to elevate the character and standing of the cultivators of American soil, to so great a degree as a general diffusion of papers among them, which are solely devoted to their pursuits.

It should then be a moving object with every member of this Society, to endeavor to diffuse these papers among the farming community. Every merchant and mechanic in this city, if he could see his own interest, would take an active part in all the objects of your Society. Improve the mind of the farmer, and he will add improvement to his farm. And every acre that is added to cultivation, adds wealth to the merchant and mechanic. For without the farmer, neither of them could exist. 'Tis true they are mutually dependent on each other, but agriculture is the base upon which all other occupations are dependent. But that pursuit has been neglected and degraded, and those who are engaged in it have been looked upon as an inferior portion of community. Let it be our object then, to rescue this most noble of all professions from its degraded state, and give it a proper elevation in society. Let us endeavor by all means in our power, to convince our agricultural brethren who are inclined to look upon our efforts with jealousy, that our object is to benefit them.

Let me urge you to continue the meetings of your Society more frequently. Carry them into every county, and use every means to get the people to attend and learn the object. You surely can always find volunteers to deliver an address, that will tend to lighten the weary toil of industry, and give an hour of instruction and amusement to an audience of farmers. But, above all things, let me urge this solemn fact upon your notice, that as you hope to prosper, you must interest the female portion of society. No cause can prosper without them. You have only to look at the political history of this country for a few years past to be convinced of that fact. It was the slander and abuse heaped upon the wife of Andrew Jackson, that enlisted female influence in his favor and placed him in the Presidential chair. It was because Martin Van Buren was a very good sort of a "ladies' man" that placed him there. And no good democrat will dare to doubt that it was female influence alone that elected him who had scarcely reached the pinacle of glory, before the Great Leveler of all men, laid him as low as the most humble among us.

And without that same kind of influence, your Society might as well cease vain efforts, for I repeat, you cannot succeed. Secure her aid and your cause will triumph. Can you not offer sufficient inducements to them to secure their attendance at the meetings of your Society?

If the premature frostiness of age had not fixed a forbidding aspect upon me, I would venture to suggest that the very name of your Society should act as a talisman upon the minds of the younger portion to induce them to come forth. They too, may here find inducements to form such a "union," as no society can exist without.

I think, that if you would make your meetings popular, that your speaker and his subject should be selected as well to instruct and amuse the fairer portion of creation, as those who style themselves "lords," and too often "lord it" over the weaker class of their fellow creatures.

I very much regret that I have not the fire and energy of youth, or at least the power to make myself more interesting to this goodly number of my fair hearers, who have complimented me by their presence here to-day.

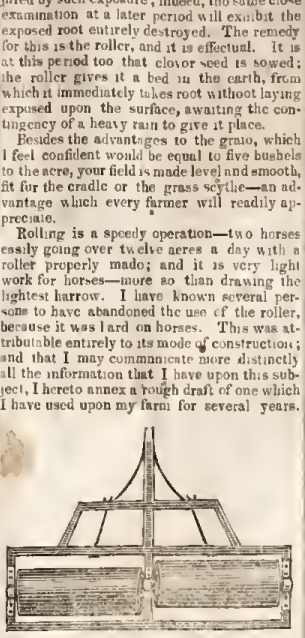
But permit me to assure them, that although I may be lacking in the soft blandishments of a "ladies' man," I am a husband and a father, and I sincerely hope I am a philanthropist; and until I forget the love and duty that I owe to the farmer, and my anxiety to promote the latter, may I never forget the pleasure that the smiles of beauty have afforded me this day.

[*To be continued.*]

THE ROLLER.—Amongst all the implements of husbandry, in point of usefulness, the roller ranks second only to the plough; its value in many particulars is so obvious, that it is really remarkable that it is not in more general use. I have thought that a suggestion of some of them through the medium of your paper, might make impressions which would lead to experiments, which I have great confidence in believing would be accomplished with profitable results. Wheat, which is most benefitted by its use, should be rolled three times;—first immediately after the seed is sowed and harrowed or ploughed into the ground, by which the seed is compactly fixed in the earth, prepared for immediate growth, and exempting it from the injury incident to its partial exposure in loose and often lumpy ground.—Again, as late in the fall as the season will allow, whereby the earth, after its exposure to the fall rains, and perhaps frosts, is fixed compactly about the roots of the plant—thus well prepared to receive the winds and cold of winter; and again as early in the spring as the ground is dry enough to receive the roller without sticking to it, by which the plant, always more or less forced to the surface by the frosts of winter, is again restored to its place and finally fixed—prepared to commence its growth with the first genial rays of the spring sun. Every farmer, however limited his observation, knows that the effect of the winter and early spring is to crack the ground; and if he will but take the pains closely to examine those cracks in the month of March, he will find the delicate roots of the wheat crossing them in all directions.—These roots are consequently exposed to the high winds and frosts of early spring, and it requires no argument to convince that the plant is much injured by such exposure; indeed, the same close examination at a later period will exhibit the exposed root entirely destroyed. The remedy for this is the roller, and it is effectual. It is at this period too that clover seed is sowed; the roller gives it a bed in the earth, from which it immediately takes root without laying exposed upon the surface, awaiting the contingency of a heavy rain to give it place.

Besides the advantages to the grain, which I feel confident would be equal to five bushels to the acre, your field is made level and smooth, fit for the cradle or the grass scythe—an advantage which every farmer will readily appreciate.

Rolling is a speedy operation—two horses easily going over twelve acres a day with a roller properly made; and it is very light work for horses—more so than drawing the lightest harrow. I have known several persons to have abandoned the use of the roller, because it was hard on horses. This was attributable entirely to its mode of construction; and that I may communicate more distinctly all the information that I have upon this subject, I hereto annex a rough draft of one which I have used upon my farm for several years.



The rollers are solid, and each 3½ feet long, and twenty-two inches diameter. The principal frame is of stuff three and a half by four and a half inches, and rests upon the gudgeons of the rollers, which are of iron, and kept in their place by straps of iron screwed on the lower side, one roller being about an inch and a half in advance of the other. The piece of timber between the rollers should be about an inch and a half thick by five inches wide in the centre—occupying little space by its thickness and getting sufficient strength by its width. I would prefer rollers of greater diameter made of oak plank. There should also be a trough the whole length of the frame erected upon it, to be used for the purpose of giving additional weight to the roller when necessary, and which may also be used for the purpose of removing stone from the field which the driver may be employed in picking up as he passes along.—*Amer. Farm.*

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST.

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

MAY, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

JOHN DEAN CATON,	of Will Co.,	Pres.
LEVI HILLS,	" La Salle "	Vice Pres.
HOLDER SISSON,	" Will "	
LEWIS ELLSWORTH,	" Du Page "	
JAS. T. GIFFORD,	" Kane "	
SETH WASHBURN,	" McHenry "	
WM. B. OGDEN,	" Cook	Treas.
JNO. S. WRIGHT,	" do.	Rec. Sec.
Do.	" do.	Cor. Sec.

MEETING OF THE U. A. S. AT CHICAGO.

In the absence of the President, Ma. ELLSWORTH, V. P., from Du Page Co., took the chair. SOLON ROBINSON, ESQ., was immediately requested to address the Society; after which it was intended to have transacted business; there being a good deal on hand.

As a manifestation of the interest awakened by the address, it was expected many subscriptions to the capital stock would be made; but while Mr. Ogden was briefly explaining the plan & objects of the Society, two or three having occasion to leave, it produced a general move. Several, however, became members. By this experiment the Society has learnt to do differently; and should the members ever have the good fortune to hear Mr. R. again, he will probably see more immediate benefit resulting from his labors.

The attendance was very good; and some of Mr. R.'s agricultural acquaintances from other counties, whom, strange to say, *he had never seen*, came to listen to his address. The attention was perfect till the close; when a general cheering greeted the speaker as he resumed his seat.

The following resolution, moved by John Blackstone, seconded by Wm. B. Ogden, was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of the members be tendered Mr. Robinson for his deep interest in the prosperity of the Union Agricultural Society, and for his most able and interesting address; and that a copy be requested for publication.

At a subsequent meeting of members, a list of objects was agreed upon, for which prizes should be offered, to be awarded at the fair in Oct.; but, as it may be altered, it will not be published till the next No. As Mr. Russell Whipple, of Du Page co., declined acting this year on the Committee of Fairs, J. W. Walker, Esq., of the same county, was substituted in his place, who has consented to act. The Committee now consists of Benj. Douglass, John Blackstone, Allen P. Hubbard, Peter W. Deitz, and J. W. Walker. They are expected to meet at Geneva, on the 28th inst.

Though there was not as much accomplished as was expected, yet the meeting was productive of great good. Not the least were the agreeable acquaintances formed between the members. Those who supposed themselves strangers, had only to learn each others names, to receive and give a cordial greeting; a warm attachment having been created by their united efforts to advance the cause of agriculture; either by building up the Society or its paper. Many who attended this meeting from a sense of duty, will hereafter attend on account of the benefits and pleasure they receive. Those who have been most assidnous in the exertions to build up the U. A. S., will feel themselves abundantly recompensed for their labor and expense of the organization, even if no other benefits should be derived from it, other than the agreeable friendships thus formed. And what we say of this, may be said with equal truth, of every other Western Society.

NATIONAL AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE.—Previous to Mr. Robinson's visit he sent us an address to the farmers of the United States, upon this, his darling subject. In a note he says he thinks it too long for our paper; but we shall publish it. A part was intended to have been given in this No. We dislike much to divide such communications; but while our room is so limited, we must consult the variety of taste of our readers, rather than our own wishes. The only way that will enable us to do differently, is for our friends to procure us such a number of subscribers that we can enlarge the paper.

Mr. Robinson intended to have submitted this subject to the consideration of the meeting here; but it was broken up so unceremoniously he had no opportunity. His object was to procure signatures to a recommendation of the plan, and of the use of the Smithsonian bequest, for the establishment of a National Agricultural School, in connection with the Society; and if any were willing also to contribute a little for the furtherance of the cause, they were to have an opportunity. It will be a suitable subject to bring before the meeting at Geneva.

WEEKS' VERMONT BEE HIVE.—Mr. Robinson has been made agent for disposing of the right to use this patent, and has left a hive with us as a pattern to make others by. We shall have them for sale in a few days at the Repository.

A NEW HARVESTING MACHINE.—It is with no little pride we notice the invention of a harvesting machine by one of the members of the U. A. S.; Mr. A. Churchill, of Avon, Kane Co. A beautiful model was exhibited at our late meeting here, and examined by a large number of farmers, who expressed great confidence in its success. It thrashes the grain while standing in the field; there being a lever by which the thrashing part may be raised or lowered according to the height of the grain. Not even the heads are cut off; but all the straw is left standing in the field. Mr. C. says he tested the principle last harvest with an imperfect machine, to his entire satisfaction. The machines will cost $200 to $250. We hope to furnish a drawing and description in the next No.

BACHELDER'S PLANTING MACHINE.—It has been thought best to send the machine into Kane Co., to be used by different farmers, who will report their opinion of it, at the meeting at Geneva, on the 28th inst. When the seed planted comes up, they will make further reports. The machine will be sent to James T. Gifford, V. P., Elgin, to whom application may be made by those who would like to try it. It was a disappointment that only one of the machines was received; as a more thorough trial could be made with several, than with one. We hope yet to receive more of them. Previous to its being sent in the country, and when returned, it may be found at the Repository; and farmers are requested to call and examine it.

CULTURE OF TOBACCO.

(*Continued from page* 31.)

"Plant-bede, if the land is not rich should be manured. This can be done before the seed are sown or afterwards. If the land is poor it is best to manure the bed before it is sown. Any well rotted manure will answer, but stable manure is best. Ashes answer very well for light soils, and have the advantage of having no grass seed in them. In saving manure for plant-beds, care ought to be taken to prevent grass seed from getting with it; so that stable manure, to be free from grass seed, ought to be saved when the horses are not turned loose out of the stable, and when they are fed on some kind of food that contains no seed. Corn-blades are one of those kinds of foods. Hen-houses and the roosts of poultry furnish good manure for tobacco beds. Hog-pens also furnish very good manure for plants. When beds are manured after the plants are up, the manura should be put on in a very fine state.

It is a custom with many planters to cover their beds after they are sowed, with pine or cedar brush.—This is a very good way to get the plants up, as the brush keeps the lands moist. The brush should be taken off the plants soon after they are up, as it makes them tender and what is termed *long-legged*.

To keep up places for tobacco beds from year to year, as soon as they are done with for that time, they should be hoed or weed up, and then covered with straw or tobacco stalks, three or four inches deep.

I now come to the transplanting of the plant. Having kept the land in which they are to be transplanted clear of too much grass and weeds it is now to be got ready for making the *hills*. The ground should be ploughed over, and if it should be *soddy* or lumpy, a heavy too h har row should be run over it. It is now ready to be laid off, which is done by running furrows from two and a half or three feet apart one way, and thee turning and running furrows the same distance apart directly across the others, at what may be termed right angles; these furrows should be very shallow. Deep furrows make the hills too high, and when they come to be worked away the plants are left standing as if they were in pinnacles. When making the hills, the top should be rounded off, so that the pat of the hoe will be no lower than any other part of the hill. This, though seem ngly of little consequence, is more so than it appears to be at first sight. In times of heavy rains it prevents the water and sand from settling about the plant. Very often when plants have only been planted a day or two there are heavy rains. If the hills are not made so that the water can run off immediately, the plants get covered up by dirt washing over them.

When drawing the plants from the bed they should be drawn with as much of their roots as possible. A common table fork, by being run under their roots, enables a person to draw the plants with all the fine fibres to their main root.—This mode should not be resorted to until the beds have been drawn several times, as the fork is apt to loosen the earth about the roots of the plants left in them, and consequently injures them; but towards the latter part of the planting time, when they will not be much longer wanted, the drawing with a fork will cause the late planting to grow off immediately.—For plants drawn in this way, will, by leaving all their fine roots, commence growing much quicker after they are transplantod, than plants will which have been drawn by hand. Plants that are used to replant with should be drawn in this manner.

When the plant-beds are within a short distance of the tobacco land, the plants should be carried to it in baskets or tubs that will not hold more than a bushel; for by carrying them in large baskets they become bruised. The most convenient way is to haul them in a cart, but this way bruises them. The best way to manage when the beds are not too far off, is to set the most careful hands on the plantation in the beds drawing plants, while the smaller and less useful hands should carry the plants to those who are planting them.

When setting the plants in the hills, care should be taken not to put more of the plant in the ground than the root; that is, the plant should be set as near as can be as it was in the bed. By putting the plants too deep in the hills, they frequently stand some time and then rot off at the root; if they should not rot off they will not grow for some time.

After the plants that have been transplanted have commenced growing, or in the language of planters, taken hold of the hill, weeding time commences. It is well not to weed tobacco too soon after it is planted; for if most of the grass seed do not get up before the hill is taken away, they will come up after the tobacco is wed-out, and it will bava to be wed again. But, on the other hand, too much grass ought not to be suffered to grow about the tobacco hills. For filth is thought to be the means of producing what is called the web-worm, which is sometimes very destructive to crops. Many planters are of the opinion that weeding away the hills in a short time after the plants are planted, will prevent the web-worm from getting in the crop. I have known some to have all the grass carried out of their tobacco ground (when their crop had become grassy) under the impression that that would prevent the web-worm.—This is a very good way; for grass left in tobacco lands, even if it is no cause of web-worm, prevents the tobacco from growing kindly. When tobacco is being wed, too much of the hill should not be taken away, as it leaves the plant standing on a small spire of earth, and in dry weather exposes the root too much to the sun. Some planters always weed their tobacco plants without running a plough or cultivator in the space between the hills, because the plough and horse sometimes knock out of the hills some of the plants.—This is a very laborious way, and a great deal of labor is lost. I have always found the most labor-saving way to be, to weed, when the tobacco ground is not very grassy, around the plant only, and afterwards plough the land by running two furrows between the plants each way. While the plants are young, if the ground does not get too grassy, I do not plough until the tobacco makes some growth. If the land should become grassy soon after the tobacco is planted, the ground should be ploughed by running two furrows in each row, and should be wed afterwards across the way it was ploughed.

After tobacco has been wed out some time, it is very often necessary to go over it again with the hoes, and take from around the plants grass that was left by oversight This should be done without taking away any earth from the plants. Two ploughings are enough for tobacco after it is planted. A cultivator should be used afterwards. When tobacco begins to cover the ground in which it is planted pretty well, it should be *laid by*; then it should be gone over again with the hoe and a hill put to it. Hilling tobacco is not absolutely necessary; for I have seen fine crops that were not hilled. The most advantage of hilling is, it keeps the tobeccoo from blowing dowo in storms.

There are two kinds of worms which have not been mentioned in this essay; either of which are at times troublesome to tobacco growers; the common ground-worm and the tobacco or horn-worm. The ground-worm is troublesomo to early planted tobacco. I know of no way to get rid of this kind of worm only the old one, and that is to hunt around the plants and kill them.

The horn worm never eats much after the 10th day of June; about this time they appear to have had their day and disappear The horn-worm is troublesome from the time of planting a crop of tobacco until it is housed. A large gang of turkeys manage this worm pretty well. When the turkeys cannot manage these worms, they must be pulled off the tobacco and killed." *To be continued.*

THE TARE OR VETCH (*vicia sativa*) is a plant which we have sometimes seen growing, but rarely cultivated among us. There is no hinderance in our climate to its cultivation; and perhaps the great reason why the cultivation of the tare or field bean has been neglected or not introduced, has arisen from our capacity to produce land corn; and our high estimation, which can hardly be extravagant, of its value as food for the brute and the human animal. As green feed especially, and for the purposes of soiling, undoubtedly the tares might be introduced to great advantage.

"The Tare," says Low, "is one of the most esteemed of the leguminous plants of this country (England.) When used as green forage, they are cut after the pods are formed, but long before the seeds are ripe. Being in the class of crops not allowed to mature their seeds, they are not exhausting to the soil. They are considered as restorative crops, from the quantity of manure which the consumption of them affords. They are exceedingly nutritious, and supply a larger quantity of food for a limited period, than almost any other forage crop. All the animals of tha farm are fond of this legume, and all thrive upon it in an eminent degree. Hogs may be fattened entirely upon it. It causes milch cows to give more butter than any other species of food, and it is employed extensively in the feeding of horses. All the English agriculturists are impressed with a high opinion of the value of tares."

Young observes, "tare crops are of such use and importance that not one-tenth of the stock could be sustained without them; horses, cows, sheep, and hogs are all fattened upon them; hogs are soiled upon them without any other food. This plant maintains more stock than any other plant whatever. Upon one acre, Davis maintained four horses in much better condition than upon five acres of grass Upon eight acres he has kept twelve horses and five cows for three months without any other food. No artificial food whatever is equal to this excellent plant."

"Tares cut green," Prof. Thaer observes, "draw no nourishment from the soil whatever; while made into hay they afford a fodder preferred by cattle to pea straw, and more nutritious than hay or any other herbage."

These high encomiums on this plant will, we hope, invite the attention of our farmers strongly to the subject, that experiments may be made among ourselves of their adaptation to our climate and soil; and of the expediency of introducing them among a rotation of crops in our system of husbandry, if we are so fortunate presently as to have a system.—Tares are of two kinds, Winter and Spring, but not distinguishable from the appearance of the seed. The winter tares are sowed in England in September and October, and when they are designed for soiling the sowing is continued at successive times until May. The spring tares are advised to be sowed as early in the spring as they can be got in. A clay soil is most congenial to their growth; and any rich soil will do, provided it is not too dry. The quantity of seed to an acre is from two and a half to three and a half bushels; the latter quantity where they are to be cut for green fodder; the former where they are cultivated for their seed. It is advised to sow some grain with them, such as rye with winter tares, and oats with spring tares, which serve to support them.

It is doubtful whether tares sowed in the fall would survive our severe winters. This, however, can only be determined by some actual experiment. We hope they will have a fair trial. For soiling they must be an excellent article; and I cannot but hope that the practice of soiling will prevail much more among us; especially for the quantity of most valuable manure, which, under proper management, may be made in this way. I ask leave here to refer to an admirable and encouraging experiment in soiling, on a small scale, in my Second Report of the Agriculture of Massachusetts, p. 69. H. C.

GRASSES.—A correspondent of the Baltimore Am. Farm. gives the following nomenclature of the common grasses.

Botanical Names.

1. POA PRATENSIS, *L.*—This is the plant erroneously called *Blue Grass*, in Kentucky. The English call it *smooth stalked Meadow Grass*. In Pennsylvania, and most of the other States, it is known by the names of *Green Grass*, *Spear Grass*, and *Meadow Grass*.
2. POA COMPRESSA, *L.*—This is most generally called *Blue Grass*, but is often called *Wire Grass*, and is probably the wire grass of Virginia. The English call it *Flat-stemmed Meadow Grass*.
3. PHLEUM PRATENSE, *L.*—In Pennsylvania, and to the South and West, this is known by the name of *Timothy*; but in New York, and throughout New England, it is called *Herd's Grass*. The English call it *Cat's Tail Grass*.
4. AGROSTIS VULGARIS, *L.*—This is the *Herd's Grass* of Pennsylvania, and probably of the Southern and Western States, as far as it is known. It is also known in Pennsylvania by the name of *Red Top*. It is called *Fine Bent Grass* by the English; and a coarser species, nearly allied to this, is the celebrated *Florin Grass* of Ireland.
5. DACTYLIS GLOMERATA, *L.*, commonly called *Orchard Grass*, in the United States. It is the *Rough Cock's foot Grass* of the English.
6. FESTUCA PRATENSIS, *L.*—This, though a valuable grass, seems not to have acquired a distinct popular name in our country. In England it is called *Meadow Fescue Grass*.
7. LOLIUM PERENNE, *L.*, commonly called *Roy Grass*, or *Rye Grass*.
8. AVENA ELATIOR, *L.*—Called *Tiller Oat Grass* by the English; it has been partially cultivated, in this country, under the name of *Grass of the Andes*.
9. ANTHOXANTHUM ODORATUM, *L.*—Called *Sweet-scented Vernal Grass*, by the English; remarkable for its fragrance, when cut and partly dry.

SPROUTING GARDEN SEEDS.—Mr. Risley, of the Horticultural Garden, Fredonia, N. Y., through the Genesee Farmer, recommends the following treatment of garden seeds, after practising it for six years:

"First, soak the seeds in water from six to twenty-four hours—some seeds being slower to admit moisture than others, is the difference in the time required. After soaking, drain off the water, and mix the seeds with a sufficient quantity of earth to absorb the moisture remaining on the seeds; stir them often that they may vegetate evenly, and keep them in a moderate degree of warmth and moisture until they are sprouted, when they are ready to be put into the ground. If the weather should be unfavorable, put the seeds in a cool place, which will check their growth."

One great advantage of this practice would seem to be, that the plants quickly appear above the surface, so that the hoe, cultivator, etc. can be used easily, before the weeds start.

HEMP, we believe, has been generally considered a Southern production; but without doubt it can be cultivated with great advantage, even in the Southern part of Wisconsan. The culture of such productions increase immensely the profits and cash receipts of a farmer.

We commence in this No. an essay, by Hon. Henry Clay, prepared for the Western Agriculturist, giving directions for the spring work.

"The preparation of the ground for sowing the seed is by the plough and harrow, until the clods are sufficiently pulverized or dissolved, and the surface of the field is rendered even and smooth. It should be so carefully prepared as if it were for flax. This most important point, too often neglected, cannot be attended to too much. Scarcely any other crop better rewards diligence and careful husbandry. Fall or winter ploughing is practised with advantage; it is indispensable in old meadows, or old pasture grounds, intended for producing hemp.

"Plants for seed are ordinarily reared in a place distinct from that in which they are cultivated for the lint. In this respect, the usage is different from that which is understood to prevail in Europe. The seeds which are intended to reproduce seeds for the crop of the next year, are sowed in drills about four feet apart. When they are grown sufficiently to distinguish between the male and female stalks, the former are pulled and thrown away, and the latter are thinned, leaving the stalks separated seven or eight inches from each other. This operation is usually performed in the blooming season, when the sexual character of the plants is easily discernible; the male alone blossoming, and, when agitated, throwing off farina, a yellow dust or flour, which falls and colors the ground, or any object that comes in contact with it. A few of the male plants had better be left, scattered through the drill, until the farina is completely discharged, for an obvious reason. Between the drills a plough is run sufficiently often to keep the ground free from weeds and grass; and between the stalks in each drill the hoe is employed for the same object.

"The seeds, whether to reproduce seeds only, or the lint, are sowed about the same time. Opinions vary as to the best period. It depends a good deal upon the season. The plant is very tender when it first shoots up, and is affected by frost. Some have sowed as early as the 1st of April; but it is generally agreed, that all the month of May, and about the 10th of it especially, is the most favorable time. An experienced and successful hemp grower, in the neighborhood of Lexington, being asked the best time to sow hemp, answered, immediately before a rain And undoubtedly it is very fortunate to have a moderate rain directly after sowing.

"When the object is to make a crop of hemp, the seeds are sown broad-cast. The usual quantity is a bushel and a half to the acre; but here again the farmers differ, some using two bushels or even two and a half. Much depends on the strength and fertility of the soil, and the care with which it has been prepared, as well as the season. To these causes may be ascribed the diversity of opinion and practice. The ground can only sustain and nourish a certain quantity of plants; and if that limit be passed, the surplus will be smothered in the growth. When the seeds are sown, they are ploughed or harrowed in; ploughing is best in old ground, as it avoids the injurious effect of a beating rain, and the consequent baking of the earth. It would be also beneficial subsequently to roll the ground with a heavy roller.

"After the seeds are sown, the labors of the cultivator are suspended, until the plants are ripe, and in a state to be gathered; every thing in the intermediate time being left to the operations of nature. If the season be favorable until the plants are sufficiently high to shade the ground, (which they will do in a few weeks, at six or eight inches' height,) there is strong probability of a good crop. When they attain that height, but few articles sustain the effect of bad seasons better than hemp."

From Loudon we extract the following. The end of April would not be earlier for England, than the 10th or 15th May for this region.

"Hemp, when grown for seed, is a very exhausting crop; but when pulled green, it is considered a cleaner of the ground, and is said to have the property of preserving from insects any crop which it may surround.

"The soils most suitable for hemp are those of the deep black putrid vegetable kind, which have a situation low and somewhat inclined to moisture, as well as the deep mellow loamy or sandy sorts. But the quantity of produce is in general much greater on the former than the latter; though, according to some, of an inferior quality. Mellow rich clayey loams do well; and nothing better than old meadow land.

"The season of sowing is towards the end of April, when there is no longer any danger of frost injuring the rising plants. The quantity of seed is from two to three bushels, according to the quality of the land. In quality the seed must be fresh, heavy, and bright in color.—Broad-cast is the universal mode of sowing; and the only after-culture consists in keeping off birds when it is coming up, in weeding, and sometimes in supporting the crop by cross rods or lines, as in the case of flax."

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

Mr. F. H. Sperry, of Wisconsin, says to the New Gen. Farm., "The three following receipts were furnished by a lady of no small standing." We would thank her, or any other of the sex, to furnish us with similar ones. We are loth to consider ourself without friends among "the better part;" but their perfect silence leaves it very doubtful, to say the least.

To make Wisconsin Mince Pies.

Take the usual quantity of meat, and substitute *beets* for apples, but in only one-third the quantity of the latter,—boil the beets, pickle them in vinegar 12 hours, chop them very fine, and add the vinegar they were pickled in. Add one-eighth of grated bread, and spice to suit you.

To make Indian Loaf Bread.

Stir Indian meal in skim milk to the consistency of pan-cake batter, about two quarts. Add 2 tea-spoonfuls of molasses, 1 of saleratus, 2 of shortening, and 2 teacups of wheat flour. Stir in the evening, bake in the morning, and eat while hot.

To make Wisconsin Sponge Cake.

Take 2 eggs, [or omit them if wished,] 1 teacup of buttermilk, 1 teaspon of saleratus, 2 tablespoons of cream, and salt to suit. Stir to the consistency of pancake batter. Bake 20 minutes on tin pans, and eat while hot with butter.

Curd Pudding.—Buy a runnet as they are prepared for the market, cut it in small pieces, and put to it a bottle of white wine. A wine glass of this mixture will be sufficient for three pints of milk, which you must previously season with rose water or any other flavor, and sweeten to the taste. If the milk is slightly warm the pudding will be made quicker. But care must be taken not to allow the milk to boil. In a very short time the milk will harden to the consistency of a baked custard. Nutmeg can then be grated over it, and it is fit for use.

A farmer will find the above simple preparation anything but disagreeable, after several hours labor in prairie dust, in a hot summer's day. Let the wife see her husband has plenty of it. Should he be cross, it will keep his mouth shut (from scolding, we mean,) for a little while, at any rate.

Salting Butter.—The following preparation is very highly recommended for butter:—two parts of the best rock salt, one of loaf sugar, (good brown will answer,) and one of saltpetre—pulverise each very fine and grind them together thoroughly—use about an ounce of it to a pound of butter. If farmers, instead of selling their butter at a low price when it is plenty, would season it in this manner and put it down in tight clean firkins; in the winter and at other seasons of scarcity, they would get a price for it that would more than pay for the trouble.

Hops.—We do not suppose any farmer will enter extensively upon the culture of the hop, or any similar crop; but all can do something with advantage in raising such productions. At least a sufficiency for home consumption, should be raised by our farmers.

As our limits will not permit us to insert the article entire in one No., we shall give it along in succeeding Nos. as the season shall require.

The following was written by Wm. Blanchard, Jun. Esq., and first published in "The New England Farmer."

"The hop is a native plant. It is found growing spontaneously on the banks and intervals of many of our large rivers. There are several distinct species, all bearing a near affinity to each other; (I have noticed five.) At present they are cultivated together, promiscuously; no preference having been given to any particular one of them by the brewer.

"The soil best calculated for the production of hops, is a sandy loam, rather low and moist. I am led to this conclusion from my own observation, and from finding the lands which produce them naturally to be of this kind. Yet, I have seen fine crops raised on very different soils.

"I should recommend the following mode of preparing the land and managing the crop. In the fall (October) plough the land deep, nine or ten inches. In the spring following, pass a heavy, sharp, iron-toothed harrow over the land, in the same direction it was ploughed; after which, spread your manure evenly over the same, sixteen cords per acre, and more if the land be much reduced; then cross-plough the land nearly the same depth, and furrow it as for planting corn, the furrows to be at least four feet apart.

"It is customary to plant corn or potatoes with the hops; (I should prefer potatoes.) Plant every other hill in every other row with hops, thus placing the hop hills at least eight feet apart. Put four cuttings from the running roots, about eight inches in length, into each hill, and cover them the common depth of potatoes.

"Many yards have been much injured by being planted too closely. It is of great importance to have the hills so far distant from each other as to admit a free current of air to pass through the yard.

"All the attention requisite the first season after the hops are planted, is to keep them clean from weeds, which is easily done when hoeing the crop planted amongst them. In the fall, (October,) to prevent their being injured by the hard frosts of winter, carry on and lay out of your cart one shovelful of compost manure on the top of each hill; manure from the hogsty I should prefer.

"In each following spring, before the hops are opened, as it is termed, spread evenly over the yard about eight cords of manure per acre, (coarse, strawy manure I should prefer, as it will have a tendency to keep the land loose) and plough the field both ways at the first hoeing. They require but three hoings in a season, unless necessary to subdue the weeds, the last of which should be performed when the hops are in full blossom, (about the beginning of August.)

"After the first crop, it is necessary to open the hops, each spring, by the middle of May; which is performed by making four furrows between the rows, turning the furrows from the hills, and running the plough as near to the same as possible without injuring the main roots. Then the earth is removed from the roots with a hoe, all the running roots cut in, with a sharp knife, within two inches of the main roots; the tops of the main roots must also be cut in, and then the hills covered with earth about two inches deep.

"The next thing necessary to be done is to set the poles. This should be done as soon as the hop-vines begin to make their appearance. By so doing, much time and labor will be saved in tying up the vines to the poles, as many of the vines will naturally take to the poles.—There should not be to exceed two vines to one pole, nor to exceed two poles to one hill, nor any pole to exceed sixteen feet in height. Many yards have been very much injured by letting a greater number of vines grow on one pole, and almost destroyed by over-poling.

"Very much depends on paying due attention, in the spring, to select the most thrifty vines, and training them to the poles, which is done by fastening them to the poles with a piece of yarn, slightly twisted together with the thumb and finger.

"It will be necessary to inspect your hop yard frequently, until the hops begin to blossom, and 'tie up the vines,' as it is termed, as they are subject to be blown off the poles by every high wind."

To be continued.

PEDIGREES OF STOCK

Belonging to Hon. J. N. Brown of Sangamon County.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

No. 1. *Helen Eyre*, red cow with white back, calved 15th Feb. 1833, by Accommodation, out of Pink; Accommodation by Cornplanter, out of the imported Cow Mrs. Motte; Cornplanter, by Tecumseh, out of Lady Munday; grand dam by a young bull bred by James Munday, who was by the imported bull Rising Sun, and out of the imported cow George-Ann; g. gr. dam the imported Teeswater cow.

2. *Lady M'Aister*, red, calved 9th Jan'y, 1835, by Pontiac; out of Lady Durham; Pontiac, by Tecumseh, (1504); see supplement to Herd Book, page 179; his dam Garcia, by Malcolm, (1190); gr. dam Del ght, Lady Durham by the imported bull San Martin, out of the imported Durham cow, imported in 1817 by Saunders Smith and Tegarden.

3. *Olive*, red and white, calved Aug. 13th, 1837, dam Helen Eyre, see No. 1., by Oliver, (2387); see 2d supplement to Herd Book; Oliver by the imported bull Memnon, (1223; dam Garcia, and she by the imported bull Malcolm, (1190); dam the imported cow Delight.

4. *Milk Maid*, spotted, calved 24th May, 1839, dam Lady McAister, see fig. 2, by Accident, for the pedigree of Accident, see bulls No. 1.

5. *Beauty*, speckled, calved spring 1835, by Accommodation; see No. 1., for the pedigree of Accommodation; dam (bred by C. Warfield Kentucky) by a bull by Tecumseh, out of cow by same.

6. *Margaret*, red and white, calved spring of 1833, by Accommodation, see No. 1; dam by a bull by Tecumseh, out of cow by same.

7. *Pink*, red and white, calved May 1835, by Pontiac; for the pedigree of Pontiac, see fig. 2, dam Margaret, see fig. 6.

8. *Cleopatra*, red and white, calved May 1835, by Pontiac, see fig. 2; dam Lucinda, by Accommodation; for the pedigree of Accommodation, see No. 1.

9. *Laura*, spotted, red and white, calved March 6th, 1836, by Accident, see bull's No. 1; dam Beauty, see fig. 5.

10. *Paulina*, spotted, red and white, calved April 2nd, 1837, by Accident, dam Pink, fig. 7.

[*To be Continued.*]

USEFUL RECIPES.

Cure for Colic in Horses.—Dissolve 1 lb. of Epsom or Glauber Salts, and ½ lb. ground Ginger in 3 pints boiling water, and when sufficiently cool, (about blood warm,) pour it down the horse. Keep it well shaken, so that the horse may get all the sediment which contains most of the ginger. In very severe attacks I generally bleed in the mouth, which I think expedites the cure, if done before giving the ginger and salts. This medicine not only cures the colic, but regulates the stomach; so that there is no tendency to colic, any more than if the horse had never had it. Colic in horses is generally brought on by long feeding on corn, or a change of feed, and over feeding and hard driving immediately after, and perhaps too much water, which causes an unnatural distension of the stomach,—then inflamation which is shown in colic, founder, &c., and my own opinion is, that

Botts never injure a horse, unless disturbed by a diseased state of the stomach and bowels, which takes place generally in the last stages of an injudiciously treated colic. Treat with the above med cine as soon as it can be procured, after a horse is attacked with colic, or what some call botts; and if it does not cure I should like to have it published, so that I might know that it had failed in one case. I have tried the above remedy for 12 or 13 years with perfect success, and have never seen it recommended in print, which is my reason for sending it to you. The best preventive of disease in the horse, is to feed the proper quantity and quality; and if he is to be worked or drove hard during the day, give much the heaviest feed after he is cool at night. Give him occasionally a few quarts of scalded bran or oats and salt: twice a week. J. S. Norton.

Kidney Worm.—J. P. Kirtland, in the West. Farm., Ohio, says that "a persevering use of corn soaked in an alkaline solution, a weak ley for instance," will cure this disease in swine. He says an extensive use of this remedy for many years enables him to say it is infallible, if it be applied before the animal has lost its appetite.

Thumps in Hogs.—Dr. S. D. Martin, in the Kentucky Farmer, says that as much tar as hogs will eat, given with their food, and a little sulphur for a short time, will cure the thumps.

Botts in Horses.—A correspondent of the Farmers' Cabinet, says in two instances when spirits of turpentine, and black pepper and whiskey had been used with no benefit, a pint of molasses caused instant relief. Milk and molasses has been a very general remedy; and if, as is generally supposed, the botts are induced to let go their hold of the sides of the stomach to feed on the milk and molasses, we should suppose they would prefer the clear molasses, as there is more body to it.

Rats.—A writer in the New Gen. Farmer recommends the following bait for traps:—

"Oatmeal one quart, one grain of musk, and six drops of the oil of rhodium. Put the musk and oil into sufficient sweet milk to moisten the meal; then mix all together in a stiff paste. The oil rhodium can generally be procured at a druggist's store; and seldom fails, together with the musk, to draw rats into any place. Caution is requisite to guard against the common cause of traps failing, which is the smell of the hand. This can be avoided by using an old knife or spoon."

"Farmers may sometimes drive away rats from their premises in the summer season, by blocking up their holes with broken glass, or blacksmith's cinders, and plastering them with mortar, repeating the process wherever new holes appear."

Product of Sheep.—This would seem to be a large yield, but perhaps under good management, not over-rated. Mr. Hubberd, an extensive wool dealer at Leeds, whose authority appears to be much relied upon, states the average of the short wooled sheep at 3½ lbs each, and the long wooled at 7½ lbs. each. Mr. Culloch, in his tables, states the yield of the Teeswater sheep to be 9 lbs. to a fleece; the Lincoln, 10 lbs.; of the Dishley, 8 lbs; of the Cotswold, 9 lbs.; and of the South Downs, 2½ lbs.; of the Cheviot, 3 lbs. to a fleece. It is stated in another work that a Mr. Sellar, by dint of persevering attention to the choice of rams, the change of herbage and placing the sheep at different ages upon appropriate pasture, together with supplies of artificial food in the pinching seasons of the year, has raised the average wool of the Cheviot race to 4 and 4½ lbs. per fleece.

I have known cases of as remarkable improvement here. They show emphatically how much a farmer's success depends on enterprise, care, and skill. H. C.

Measuring Corn.—The following rule for ascertaining the quantity of shelled corn in a house of any dimensions, is by Wm. Murray, Esq. of South Carolina, and was read before the St. John's Collection Agricultural Society and communicated by them for publication in the Southern Agriculturist.

Rule.—Having previously levelled the corn in the house, so that it will be of equal depth throughout, ascertaining the length, and breadth, and depth of the bulk; multiply these dimensions together, and their products by four, then cut off one figure from the right of this last product. This will give so many bushels and a decimal of a bushel of shelled corn. It is be required to find the quantity of eared corn, substitute eight for four, and cut off one figure as before.

Example.—In a bulk of corn in the ear, measuring 12 feet long, 11 feet broad, and 6 feet deep, there will be 316 bushels and eight-tenths of a bushel of shelled corn, or 633 boshels and six-tenths of ear corn, as:

12	12
11	11
132	132
6	6
792	792
4	8
316,8	633,6

The decimal 4 is used when the object is to find the quantity in shelled corn, because that decimal is half of the decimal 8, and it requires two bushels of ear corn to make one of shelled corn. In using these rules, a half a bushel may be added for every hundred, that amount of ears results from the substitution of the decimals.—*Kentucky Farmer.*

The term "*barrel of corn,*" so much used by Southerners, means 5 bushels of shelled corn.

Currants—Raspberries.—You cannot prune currant and gooseberry bushes to standards. Nature never intended them for *trees*, and it is seldom safe to violate her intentions. She designed them for *bushes*, and bushes it is best to allow them to be; but prune them so as not to allow the limbs to interfere much with each other, and so as to exclude the decayed and diseased limbs.

About as pretty a fruit as families hereabouts can cultivate in their gardens, is a black raspberry or thimble berry. The bushes grow wild in most of our towns, and therefore, the original root can easily be obtained; but they never produce so abundantly nor so sweet fruit in a wild state, as when cultivated in gardens. They are hardy, will withstand any winter, are great, very great bearers, nothing injures them, and the fruit is delicious eaten fresh from the bush, or set upon the tea table, with a little sugar and cream mixed with it. The berries, too, make excellent pies, preserves, &c. On the whole, they are a most agreeable and valuable fruit to cultivate. They make an elegant appearance growing, and a dozen bushes will supply an ordinary sized family with an abundance of the fruit for use in the season of them, besides enough for the best of preserves. —*Maine Cultivator.*

"Bots and Horse Bees."—Messrs Editors—Some other facts on this subject may be added to those mentioned by "Spectator" in your last paper. It is not easy to decide in what manner the *nits*, deposited by the *bot-fly* on the hair of the horse, pass into the stomach of that noble animal. The fact is certain. By the shaggy coat of the stomach the nits are detained by some unknown contrivance till they hatch into *bots*. By the same contrivance probably the bots are detained till they are full grown, deriving their nourishment from the coats of the stomach. In the course of the following winter and spring, many of them are voided by the horse, and may be seen in the manure of the horse stable, half an inch long, sharper at one end which is their mouth, showing many rings, and giving signs of life on being touched, probably to be changed by the heat of summer into botflies. But many of the bots are often retained for a longer period in the horse's stomach, before they are voided by the animal. It is in this case that the bots are so dangerous, and often destroy the horse, as they pass their tapering mouth or proboscie through the shaggy and into the other coats of the stomach, and even through all the coats. I once saw in the stomach of a fine horse that had died from their action, multudes of bots sticking into their coats, and many of them had pierced through that organ, so that on

scraping them off with a knife the liquid matter of the stomach passed through its coats. Those bots were large and strong and of a deep flesh color. They might have been detached perhaps by the action of spirits of turpentine, for this substance has great power over all such animals, but the death of the horse must have ensued from the numerous lacerations of the stomach. The only way to prevent the fatal termination, is the application of remedies before the bots have got so deep a hold, and of course before there is any indication, or any alarming symptoms of the disease. In other words, the remedy must be applied while the horse is in good health. This will not commonly or very often be done; and if it should be done, it might not prove effectual. We can know the danger only by the symptoms of the disease, the indications of the danger.

The name given to the bot-fly by naturalists has been *Oestrus*, from the Greek to *excite or to sting*. Hence they called the *gad-fly* or *goad-fly*, which lays its eggs in the backs of cattle, *Oestrus bovis*, or ox-fly; the insect that lays its eggs in the nose of sheep, *Oestrus ovis*, or sheep-stinger; the bot-fly, *Oestrus equi*, or horse-stinger. The last, because it inhabits the stomach of the horse, is now called *Gasterophilus equi*, the *lover of the stomach of the horse*. The economy discoverable in the works of nature, leads to the belief that the bot performs some important service in the stomach of the horse, while its own being is developed and is preparing to become a flying insect. Probably it is only in a diseased state of the bots that they cease to be useful and become injurious to the stomach. It may be that some disease of the horse first brings on the diseased state of the bots. It is very certain that the larva of the sheep-stinger become diseased in nose of the sheep, and work their way upwards towards the brain, and bring on blindness, and dullness, and loss of appetite, and the staggers, and finally the death of the sheep. The examination of the head shows them to be large, strong active maggots.

It is well known that the transformation of insects are different, and take place under different circumstances. The silk-worm winds up itself in a cocoon to become a chrysalis, and thence a fine *moth*. The common apple-tree-worm winds up itself by its web and a leaf, and thus undergoes like changes; this also may others. The worm on the mill-weed attaches itself by its tail to the underside of a rail or limb of a tree, drops off its head, and becomes a beautiful blue sac spangled with spots of gold, from which in a few days a splendid butterfly comes forth." The larger yellow worm on the common cabbage descends in the ground after its period of eating, drops off its head, and by continued working forces it way into the earth for a winter residence, and the next spring works up to the surface, and comes forth in July or August, one of the moths that trouble our candles in the evening to such an extent The earth too, becomes the habitation of *bots*, till the natural changes take place, and the hot-flies spring into life to take their common round of annoyance to horses and enjoyment to themselves. This annoyance is greatly increased by the fact that the fertilization of the nits takes place after their deposition on the hair of the horse.

How wonderful are these contrivances and adaptations for the diffusion of life! What a mult tude of those wonders present themselves to the eye of the careful and patient observer!

C. DEWEY.

—New Gen. Farm.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Their Officers, Doings, &c.

We cannot publish the proceedings of every agricultural meeting; but under this head, will give a synopsis of the more important parts of the proceedings of the societies.

The PEORIA co. Society, by its Secretary, Mr J. C. Flannagan, announces that a fair will be held at Peoria on the 8th October, when premiums will be awarded on horses, cattle, swine, sheep, and on cultivation, to the amount of $91; besides a premium of $10 for the best specimen of quickset hedge, to be awarded at the fair in 1843. This last is worthy of particular commendation, and the example should be imitated by other societies.

The LAFOOTE co. (Ia) meeting on the 3d ult., seems to have been an interesting one. The following officers were elected: Gen. Jos. Orr, Pres.; Dan'l Brown, V P.; T. D Lemon, Cor. Sec.; John S Crandal, Rec. Sec.; Wm. Hawkins, Treas; and 30 Curators. J. B. Niles, Esq. delivered an address, which is excellent, and withal practical. We shall be glad to publish it. Hereafter we shall endeavor to find room at least for some extracts. Mr. G. Hathaway is appointed to address the meeting at the annual fair.

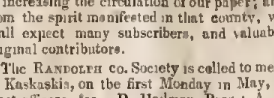
The ADAMS co. Society held its annual meeting, March 6, 1841; when Maj. J. H. Holton was chosen Pres.; Col. Geo. Smith, J. F. Battell, and J. T. Holmes, Vice Pres.; F. C. Moore, Cor Sec.; D. B. Waterman, Rec. Sec.; Col. M. Shuey, Treas. A tax of one dollar was levied. Adjourned to meet at Columbus on the 1st Saturday in August.

The WINNEBAGO co. Society, as we are informed by Mr. Lee of Kishwaukee, adopted a constitution and by-laws, and elected its officers on the 20th ult. as follows Dr. D. Haskell, Pres.; R. J. Cross, V. P.; Geo. W. Lee, Cor. and Rec. Sec.; and C. J. Horseman, Treas. He says there is a good deal of interest felt upon the subject.

Mr. J. S. NORTON writes us that the Society now numbers about 30 members, with a fair prospect of increasing it to 200 in the course of the season. A meeting of the officers is called for the 22d inst. Both the above efficient friends of agriculture, promise their aid in increasing the circulation of our paper; and from the spirit manifested in that county, we shall expect many subscribers, and valuable original contributors.

The RANDOLPH co. Society is called to meet in Kaskaskia, on the first Monday in May, to elect officers, &c. D. Hailmon, Pres.; A. J. Dickeson, Sec.

This is the section of a fence, referred to in Col. Gooding's letter, on page 34, left out by mistake.



IOWA TER.—Heretofore we have made no effort to obtain subscribers in Iowa, supposing it would interfere with the Stephenson paper: but as that has been discontinued, and as we have begun to receive subscribers without the least exertion, we think it is time to do something, and shall send copies of our prospectus as fast as we can learn the names of agents. We shall be very glad to exchange with the papers of the Ter., and shall send them copies as fast as their names and address are ascertained, and will thank them to inform their readers of the existence of our paper.

A FACT FOR THE NATURALIST.—Mr Fergus of this city, has loaned us a Scotch paper, in which is an extract from the Bradford Observer, stating, that in the bag of a cow, slaughtered in that town, was found a seven shilling piece, a large rusty nail three inches in length, and a handful of large-sized shot.

The same paper, gives accounts of several ploughing matches; after which the agricultural societies held balls, and danced till morning.

Mr. B. KEITH, of Nine Mile Prairie, Perry co. writes us a very good letter, sending his dollar, which, if he had only handed to the P. M., he would have franked it, saving us 37 cents. We cannot stand such a discount from our paper as that, "no how." In such instances, we can only send a proportionate number of copies. We trust he will make up the expense many times over, in his efforts in our behalf.

Mr. BRAYSHAW, of same place, sending a goodly number of subscribers, alludes to our statement in No. 2, that the reception of the third No. of our paper, might be considered evidence that the dollar had been paid; and as it was sent where the dollar was not paid, says now we had best send receipts. We consider it entirely unnecessary. Where we send the paper, it is, as we suppose, to a friend of the cause, and with the expectation that he will pay for it; but if he chooses not to, we shall never send him a dunning letter. He can pay if able, and if he thinks the paper worth a dollar.

Mr. HUGH LUCO, of Phillipstown, White co. writes us that he is much pleased with the Agriculturist, and offers his services as agent. We thank him for his kind wishes, and shall expect much benefit from his assistance.

Mr. B. DOUGLASS, now of Ottawa, writes us that he is soon to return to his farm at Crystal Lake, McHenry co. We are rejoiced to learn that he is hereafter to devote himself to farming. The U. A. S. will be much aided by him; and being one of the Committee on Fairs, he will exert himself to make the Fair the coming fall interesting.

IMPORTED HORSE "ONUS."—We learn this splendid horse, imported by Col. Oakley is to stand this season at Tremont.

An opportunity will be afforded the friends of the U. A S., in a few days, to give *substantial* proof of their interest in the cause.

We are expecting paper of a better quality, in season for the next No.

THE MEETING AT GENEVA of the U. A. S. on the 28th inst.; let it not be forgotten.

By accident, the "Household Department and Useful Recipes" were omited in No. 4.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr. M. B. Osborn's favor of March 31st, was received too late for this No, Where it been all the time!

Mr. Churchill's account of his disposal of his time, we regret we cannot find room for in this No.

The communication of Mr. Wm. B. West, upon hops, is just received. Had it come to hand a little earlier, it would have been inserted instead of the article, given in part, on page 39. Will Mr. W. please examine that, as far as published, and give his opinion of it. His letter will be given in the next. We trust he will not long lack the time to fulfil the promise contained in his P. S.

Hon. Geo. Churchill's letter upon the worm fence, will also be given in the next No. If through mistake the initials, or a fictitious signature, gets at the bottom of a communication, we should like to see. Mr. C.'s course adopted—scratch it out, and give the real name in full. A rose, according to Shakspeare, may be as sweet if called by any other name; but in our opinion, it is far otherwise with the signature to an agricultural communication.

We thank our friend Geo. Reed, Esq., of Milwaukee, for his favor just received. It is on file for insertion with the following—Jas. Long, upon the Black-leg or Quarter-ail; J. S. Norton, upon the Irish Graz ere; A. Churchill upon Breaking Colts, &c.—also Prairie Weeds, Preserving Onions, Value of the Wren, and Cure for Garget in cow's bags, &c.

Mrs. R. has our warmest thanks for her communication, the first from a lady's pen. She will not let it be the last, we hope. Though it may appear rather egotistical in us, we shall give it in the next No. We do something in the way of cultivating flowers, but have not room to insert a list of seeds as requested.

CHICAGO PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED MAY 7th, 1841.

BREAD STUFFS—				$ cts.	$ cts.
Flour, Superfine,	per bbl.			3 50 *a*	3 75
Corn Meal,	"	bu.		28 *a*	31
GRAIN—					
Wheat, Winter,	"	bu.		48 *a*	56
do. Spring,	"	bu.		37 *a*	44
Corn,	"	bu.		28 *a*	31
Oats,	"	bu.		20 *a*	22
Barley,	"	bu.		25 *a*	31
Beans,	"	bu.		37 *a*	50
SALT—					
Fine,	"	bbl.		3 00 *a*	—
HIDES—					
Green,	"	lb.		3 *a*	3½
Prime,	"	lb.		8 *a*	9
GROCERIES—					
Molasses,	"	gal.		65 *a*	75
Sugar, St. Croix,	"	cwt.	11	50 *a*	12 00
do. N. O.	"	do.	10	00 *a*	11 00
do. Maple,	"	do.	9	00 *a*	10 00
Tea, Imperial,	"	lb.	1	00 *a*	1 13
do. Y. Hyson,	"	lb.		05 *a*	87
White Fish,	"	bbl.	7	00 *a*	—
LUMBER—					
Clear,	"	M.	16	00 *a*	20 00
Merchantable,	"	do.	9	00 *a*	12 00
Flooring,	"	do.	12	00 *a*	14 00
Siding,	"	do.	10	00 *a*	14 00
Refuse,	"	do.	7	00 *a*	8 00
Shingles,	"	do.	2	00 *a*	3 00
Lath. Board,	"	do.	8	00 *a*	10 00
PROVISIONS—					
Pork,	"	cwt.	3	00 *a*	3 75
do. Mess,	"	bbl.	10	00 *a*	12 00
do. Prime,	"	do.	8	00 *a*	10 00
Beef on foot,	"	cwt.	3	50 *a*	4 00
do. packed,	"	bbl.	7	00 *a*	10 00
Hams, smoked,	"	cwt.	5	50 *a*	6 50
Lard,	"	do.	6	00 *a*	7 00
Butter,	"	lb.		10 *a*	12
Eggs,	"	doz.		8 *a*	10
Chickens,	"			12 *a*	18
Turkeys,	"			37 *a*	50
VEGETABLES—					
Potatoes,	"	bu.		44 *a*	50
Turnips,	"	bu.		25 *a*	31
Onions,	"	bu.		37 *a*	—
Parsnips,	"	bu.		37 *a*	—

AGRICULTURAL REPOSITORY.

THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY has now opened its REPOSITORY at the Store of Mr. A. Follansbe, 112 Lake Street, and consignments are solicited of

GRAINS, ROOTS, AND SEEDS of all kinds.
FRUIT TREES AND SHRUBBERY,
GARDENING AND FARMING
IMPLEMENTS, AND MACHINES

either common or patented, and anything useful in Agriculture.

Commissions for the purchase or sale of valuable animals, will receive particular attention.

Communications, *post-paid*, may be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary Un. Agr Soc.

GARDENS TO LET.—The subscriber has several lots and blocks to lease for one or more years, situated in town, and containing from 3½ acres down to ¼ acre. On one block, which has been cultivated for two years, and very highly manured, is a two story house that will be rented with the whole, or a part of the block. Some of the lots are enclosed others open. Several 80 acre lots in the vicinity, of town, will also be leased.

JNO. S. WRIGHT.

Chicago, March 1.

DAHLIAS AND FLOWER SEEDS.

A CONSIGNMENT of superb Dahlias and Flower Seeds from S. B. Noble's gardens, Ypsilanti, Michigan, are on the way and will be received in a day or two, at the REPOSITORY, No. 112 Lake Street, Chicago.

WEEKS' PATENT BEE HIVES,

And BURLINGTON SILK FRAMES, for sale at the REPOSITORY.

PURE BLOOD HOGS.

THE Subscriber has a Berkshire Boar from J. Lossing's stock All any, and a certificate from him to show that he is pure in blood and color, and of a large breed, being from a superior sow and from his best Boar, which I intend to keep for the accommodation of any who may wish to improve on their breed of hogs.

I have also a Berkshire Sow, and hope to be able in a few months to furnish some pure-blood Berkshire pigs.

I have also a Leicestershire Boar and Sow which are kept for breeding, they are large, white and noble animals, and from them I expect pigs this Spring: and expect also in a few weeks, some of the half-bloods of both Berkshire and Leicestershire, of superior sows.

The terms for the use of the Boars and the price of the pigs will be reasonable.

J. VIAL.

Goshen, Cook Co., Ill., March, 1841.



BACHELDER'S PATENT PLANTING MACHINE.

THE Subscriber having been appointed Agent by the Proprietors of the above named Patent, for manufacturing and selling said Machines at Alton, and also for disposing of the right to manufacture and sell the same in the several counties of Illinois, would respectfully call the attention of Farmers and mechanics generally to this valuable invention.

This machine is constructed on principles altogether different from all others for similar purposes. It performs the operation of planting without opening a furrow, thereby dispensing with coverers, that are continually liable to clog, and get out of order. It simply raises the soil a little, and at the same time drops the seed at any distance desired, when the soil falls back to its original place, and is immediately followed by a moveable guage, that leaves the soil to any depth over the seed that the operator chooses; it also removes all small stones and sods from the place where the seed is deposited.

☞ Orders for the Planter, or application for rights to manufacture and sell them in counties in this State, addressed to the undersigned, will meet with prompt attention. JOHN ATWOOD



THE above cut is from a Berkshire boar owned by J.H. Leevenworth, of Chicago, Ill. "Black Hawk" is from the stock of the late Judge Buel, of Albany, N. Y., and measures six feet from end of snout to root of tail, and his four feet eight inches, and although but in "working order," weighs over four hundred pounds.

Mr. L. has a small stock of full blooded Berkshires, and can now part with a few pigs, if application is made soon. He has also a litter of pigs by "Black Hawk," out of a Byfield sow.

HOLCOMB & CO., BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS, SALOON BUILDINGS, CHICAGO.

The Union Agriculturist

AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

VOL. I. CHICAGO, JUNE, 1841. NO. 6

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

Published Monthly, by the Union Agricultural Society. Edited by the Corresponding Secretary, the Organ of the Illinois State Agricultural Society.

Terms.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance.* Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid.* Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character will be inserted at $1,50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance.* Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

Wool and Domestic Manufactures.—Our readers will doubtless notice Mr. Churchill's communication; and would it not be well if more of our Western farmers would adopt his plan in growing and manufacturing wool enough for family use? Mr. C. appeared at the meeting of the U. A. S. at this place, dressed in cloth of his own manufacture; and were our farmers generally to adopt this course, many thousand dollars, now sent to the East annually to pay for woollen cloths, would be saved for the improvement of our farms. Extensive manufactories are not wanted with us; and will not be found in the West, till the price of labor is much reduced—till far more of our public lands are occupied; and as females do so much of the factory work, we may add, till more of our young and old bachelors are provided with a "better half;" for, however necessary girls might be to the success of the factory, we imagine very few would be long in deciding the question, whether to remain immured in a factory, or acquire freedom and independence by becoming the wife of a thrifty farmer. It will of necessity be many years before extensive factories can be made profitable in this section. The expense of transporting the raw material to the East, and finely manufactured goods back, will for a long time be less than the difference between the cost of manufacturing there and here. But every village may have its carding machine, and its fulling and dressing mill; and the farmer need not fear to manufacture his flannel because he knows not where to get it dressed; be assured the mill will not long be wanted, after there is work to be done in it.

Analyses of Soils.—We again ask scientific men to furnish us analyses of soils. It is important to the farmer that he should know the constituents of the soil he tills; and the information would be interesting to our Eastern readers.

At the East, the soils have been so extensively analyzed that they know all about them—can tell what soils are best adapted to each kind of grain—but here in the West, who can tell anything about it?

There are men of science scattered throughout the West, who might furnish information; and if they will send to their names, offering to analyze specimens that may be sent them, we will engage they shall not long be without work.

Buckthorn for Hedges.—Mr. C. L. Shepherd of Buffalo Grove, says in the Albany Cultivator, he thinks the buckthorn will prove better adapted for prairie fencing, than any other plant. He found by experiment that the seed sprouted readily; though he feared his might be winter-killed, as, being planted very late, they only grew one to two inches. We should be highly gratified at receiving the communications from Mr. S. upon this important subject.

The editor of the Boston Courier says, "If any gentlemen wishes to see a beautiful Buckthorn Hedge, he may be gratified by stopping at the residence of the editor in Cambridge. No worm or boror attacks the root or the stem; no insect preys upon the foliage. In six years it may be raised from the seed to a state of maturity sufficient to afford the protection required; and it will last as long as its owners or his heirs may need it. Our plants were procured six years ago from Mr. Derby of Salem, who, it is well known, has a specimen of the hedge surpassing any thing of the kind in Massachusetts."

Mr. S. C. Clarke, of this city, gave us last spring a quantity of buckthorn sprouts of one year's growth, which we have set between our door yard and garden. The dry weather this summer has killed some; but most of them are very flourishing. As yet there are no thorns on them.

The Wheat Market.—We are rejoiced to see so many of our farmers availing themselves of the present good prices the merchants are paying for wheat. There are at least three chances of its falling to one that it will rise. When vessels cannot be obtained to take it down the lakes, then the price will go down, if it should not from any other cause. They are now getting the high price of 14 cents per bushel from this place to Buffalo; and when the season is a little more advanced, the price will be still higher. All this will have to come out of the wheat raised. Bring in your wheat as fast as possible. You are doing well enough in getting one dollar, and may do worse.

☞ Those who may receive an extra copy of the paper are requested to loan it to their neighbors. We have had a few more than our usual number printed, that they might be circulated in this manner; and if a copy be used industriously, it may be the means of bringing us several subscribers. Please keep them moving.

The Prospectus.—When about in the country, we found many who had received copies of the large prospectus, had stowed them snugly away, so that they could neither aid or injure us. We would be much obliged to those having them on hand, to have them put up in the most public places to their vicinity.

To Correspondents.—Almost all the communications we have on hand were received several weeks since. You are not to be blamed for not sending to us, so long as you receive no return. But now we being under way again, we hope you will move also. As there are several Nos. to be got out speedily, a good supply of original articles will be acceptable, if sent *very soon.*

☞ To Editors exchanging with us.—We thank you for the courtesy you have shown us in sending your papers while ours has been so long in arrears. This No. will explain to you why you have so often had occasion to enclose notes, or mark on the margin, "yours not rec'd." Our vanity has been not a little flattered at finding the Union Agriculturist so generally missed. The few which have not recently sent their papers, will, we hope, again place us on their exchange list.

Bees and Hives.—The communication of Mr. M. B. Osborn of Genesero, Henry co., upon a bee-house, we hoped to get in this No.; but it is impossible. It will appear in the next.

We have not room to answer at length, his query relative to the proportionate increase of bees kept in a bee-house, where their swarming is prevented, and those kept in hives. But the increase being in proportion to the number of queens, and as but one queen can exist in the same hive, the greater the number of hives, of course the greater the increase. Mr. O. will, we trust, keep us informed of the success of his experiment.

A pamphlet entitled Bee-Breeding in the West, by Mr. Affick, editor of the Western Farmer and Gardener, has been received; for which the publisher has our thanks. As our limits will permit, we shall extract from it.

The Alderney Cow, being from Normandy in France, we have thought whether the small cow, common with the French in the Southern part of this State, was not brought with them from their native land; and was not originally the genuine Alderney. We have often heard of the great quantity and richness of the milk of the French cow; and from what we can learn, they probably are from the Alderney stock, though perhaps somewhat deteriorated.

If some one will send us information, he may render the agricultural community a great favor; for it is said no breed is equal to the Alderney for the dairy; and if we have them in the State, though even if not thorough bred, the farming community should be made aware of their excellencies.

Tobacco.—Not having room in this No. for reasonable instructions for the culture of hops, hemp and tobacco, we thought it would be less injury to leave out those upon tobacco. Full instructions for the curing, &c., shall be given soon. We have on hand notes by the Far. Register of Va., upon the essay we have commenced publishing, which are valuable and shall be given. Also a prize essay upon the culture of tobacco, from the Kentucky Farmer. We should be glad to have original communications upon this subject from Western farmers. They better know our wants.

Article crowded out.—The remainder of Mr. Caton's communication upon Prairie Breaking, we supposed would have been inserted in this No., as it should have been; but there has been so much other matter set there is not room. The remainder of Mr. Robinson's addresses in the same situation. They were both in the former copy of the June No.

Several other communications we intended to insert, but have not room.

Great Sale of Valuable Stock.—The advertisement of the sale of Mr. Neff's stock at Cincinnati, commencing the 7th September, which was sent us by the Western Farm. and Gar'd, for insertion, we omit, because our paper appears too late to make its insertion of any benefit.

Agricultural Reading Room.—Having taken an office at the Lake st., we shall keep there on file all our exchange papers, agricultural works, &c., and cordially invite every one who feels an interest in the U. A. S. or its paper to visit the Farmer's Reading Room. We wish to make it a rendezvous for farmers visiting Chicago; that when they come in, and have a half-hour's leisure, they may spend it pleasantly and profitably; either in conversing with each other, or reading the agricultural and miscellaneous publications. Another object we have in view, is to become acquainted with the farmers individually, as far as possible; and all of them being possessed of so much more practical information—so many more facts derived from their own experience and observation—than most are willing to put on paper for publication, we shall expect by the intercourse to be able greatly to improve the paper.

In addition to the reading room, we wish to make a collection of anything interesting or curious in agriculture or, indeed in any department of Nature. Articles that may be left will be labelled with the name and residence of the donor or lessee.

A register will be kept for the entry of the names and places of residence of visitors, together with descriptions of articles they may leave.

Let no farmer visit Chicago without honoring the reading room with a visit.

P. S.—Since writing the above, we have determined to take a journey to the East: one of the principal objects of which will be, to make arrangements to receive at the Repository an assortment of agricultural machines and implements, seeds, &c. It may therefore be possible that farmers may not be able at all times to obtain access to the reading room for a few weeks to come. Some one will be there a considerable portion of the time.

The paper will not be stopped on account of our absence, but the back No.'s will be got out as fast as possible.

The Chicago Repository.—This establishment should not be forgotten. The farmer having a *very* choice lot of grain, might do better to leave it here for sale, than sell it to the merchant. An occasional change in seed is as necessary in grain as in stock. A farmer cannot plant or sow seed grown on the same land for many years in succession, unless he select it with great care, without its deteriorating. If farmers would avail themselves of this establishment, and send to it choice varieties of grains, roots, &c., to be sold on commission, they would not only be benefiting themselves, but be aiding the Repository in acquiring a footbold.

The Wild Raspberry spoken of on page 39, is found in abundance in the West; and all that is said in its favor in Maine, may, with equal propriety, be said of it here. We have tested its value by cultivating it; and it will probably be worth more for cultivation in the West than almost any imported variety. Do let us make more of our native fruits. All the splendid kinds of plums, cherries, apples, peaches, strawberries, &c., have been made what they are by culture. Originally most of them were far inferior to what grows wild in the West; and why can we not improve some of our own natives? It might require much careful attention to make some of them equal to many exotics; but what of that;—why should not some of us attempt to make improvements, and give the world one more variety of fruit, as well as enjoy those already possessed?

Mr. Churchill's Harvesting Machine.—We are disappointed in not being able to insert a drawing and description of this new invention by one of our members, which was noticed in a previous No. Mr. C. has been using one of the machines quite extensively; and it works much better than he expected. Mr. Caton says that with a seven feet cylinder, which would require four horses, it will harvest *fifteen acres or more in a day.* It threshes the grain out while standing in the field; and were it thought advisable, a fanning-mill might be connected with it. But the grain is less likely to spoil if left in the sheaf a few days. One man and two boys will tend it.

We shall probably have a drawing and description in season for the next No.

Canada Thistle.—Mr. Vial in a former No. has urged the importance of taking pains to prevent the introduction of this pest to the farmer. But we learn it is already amongst us, Mr. Vial's suggestions should still be remembered, to prevent its further introduction; and constant efforts made to eradicate it where it has already appeared.

A farmer—his name we have forgotten—told us he cleared it from his farm at the East, where it troubled him greatly, by salting his cattle on the bed.

A Western Grape.—In the spring, we received from Mr. Bradley, of City West, Ia. three vines of an indigenous grape, said to be very sweet and fine. The vines we cut up into slips and set out, and shall have some of the roots to spare to our friends next spring; particularly those who exert themselves in behalf of the paper. For a long time we have not received a present we value more highly.

Beet Sugar.—The sample of sugar made by Mr. Gifford we have drained; and it is now hard sugar, though not perfectly dry. The sample shows he can make beet sugar.

Some have supposed that each family might make its own sugar. This we consider an erroneous calculation. Every farmer might about as well calculate to grind his own wheat. But we believe the day is not far distant, when a sugar mill for a settlement will be a common thing; and farmers will take to it their beets and receive sugar in return. The process of making sugar requires experience; and the more and longer a man is engaged in it, the more successful will he be in the manufacture.

The Cut Worm.—When driving over the prairies, particularly about sun down, and soon after sun-rise we noticed often mounds of the cut-worm. This year we understand it has been very destructive to many crops—corn, garden vegetables, &c., cutting off the stocks even with the surface of the ground. Does it injure crops as late or later than the middle of July?

Mr. Gifford says he finds ploughing late in the fall the best way of destroying it.—We intending to plough all his old ground this fall for that purpose. They travel so rapidly, that we should suppose there would be very little benefit for a single individual's adopting that course.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Union Agriculturist.

BEES AND HIVES.

(*Continued from page 36.*)



Fig. 16.



Fig. 17.

Summing up the whole of my small stock of knowledge of the character of the bee; I should, for the first experiment, try No. 1, placed directly upon the stand B, with the moveable cover F screwed firmly to the top. I should then suppose that I had furnished them a hive, in which all their labors could be performed with ease, and with as little loss of time as possible. From the form of the stand, (hopper shape,) the hive is easily cleaned of filth and insects, and the ventilation is nearly perfect.

To obtain the honey of the best quality, without destroying the bees; I should let in a false top or partition, as represented at E, fig. 17, of half inch board when making the box; the partition should have a hole in the centre 6 inches by 1½, ranging from side to side, so as to cross the comb; as the comb generally ranges from front to rear. I would also make two boxes of similar form, No. 2 and 3, each of half the height of No. 1. When No. 1, was filled, I would put under No. 2: when this was filled, I would take the outer cover F of No. 1 off, and put No. 2 upon No. 1, covering No. 2 with the cover F, and close the entrance of No. 1. By the way, No. 1 should be closed when No. 2 is put under. Let them remain thus a few days, and then put under No. 3, closing the entrance to No. 2 and 3, and opening No. 1. When I found by examining, that the cells of the comb in No. 2, were all full and caked over, I would take it off. If the bees inclined to work down into No. 3 rather than fill No. 2, with good well wrought honey, I would try it between No. 1 and 3; but thus I would not do till late in the season, for fear of having the comb and honey spoiled with bee bread. To get the honey from the box, turn it bottom up on a table,—if any bees remain, darken the room, except a small place for the bees to escape; then cut the comb loose from the sides of the box; and as the partition has not been fastened, you may raise the sides, leaving the comb standing on the partition board, in which state you may set it away for use, by carefully placing it in such a situation as to save what may run from the fractured edges;—the box may be put on again, and the whole covered with a board or cloth.

Description:—A A A fig. 16 and 17 entrances; B stand, which may be placed on four legs, as represented at D D, fig. 16; but I should prefer placing the hive in a shed, on a horizontal ladder-shaped rest, the steps six inches wide, and placed so far apart that the stand would rest upon each step about an inch, leaving a space in front and rear of at least a foot; C, fig. 16, entrance through the centre of the stand; D, fig. 17, legs; E E E partition boards. Each entrance should have a plug attached to the hive by a string, to be always ready.

From a good swarm, I should expect to take two or three boxes of honey in a season, of a quality far superior to that which is taken from the bottom of a hive, or near the main entrance; as the bee uses the comb near the entrance to store the raw or unwrought honey.

A. Churchill.

The drawings are far from being perfect,—in fact, I know nothing about drawing, except what I have learned by myself; and, besides, splitting rails and drawing do not go very well together. A. C.

For the Union Agriculturist.

BLACK-LEG OR QUARTER-AIL.

Mr. Wright,—I would like to inquire, through the medium of the Society's paper, whether there is any known preventive or cure for the Blackleg or Quarter-ail. I lost three calves last fall with this disease; and as it is making its appearance again in the neighborhood, I feel anxious to learn something from the experience of others.

The three cases above, which came under my observation, were so sudden that I had not much opportunity to try remedies: though I am told that the creature attacked generally shows symptoms, such as lameness and sluggishness, several days before death. I opened the bodies of my calves after they died, with a view of finding out the character of the disorder: but the appearance differed essentially, excepting that in them all the manifold or mammina was very hard and dry. In the first, the forelegs and brisket were black and mortified, the kidneys nearly putrid, and the bowels having every appearance of inflammation. The second, the blood had settled about the loins, but all its inwards seemed in a perfectly healthy state. And in the third, one of the hind legs was mortified, and all the fat about the paunch was of a bright vermilion color, but everything else seemed natural.

I have thought, from the fact that the manifold in each case was the same, that there was the seat and origin of the disease; and as it was the commencement of winter, I thought it was brought on by a too sudden change of food, from grass to dry fodder, thus deranging the organs of the stomach. The change in the spring from hay to green grass may produce the like effect, or perhaps by the animal eating poisonous weeds during summer. However, if any of your readers have had more experience, I would feel grateful for any hints on the subject; and a comparison of observation may possibly lead to a check of this, now incurable, disorder, Yours truly,

James Long.

Monroe, April 27, 1841.

For the Union Agriculturist.

A PRAIRIE PAPER, SPRING WHEAT, &c.

Mr. Editor, Dear Sir,—I have received your line, requesting my interest to promote the circulation of your paper and the interest of agriculture, (which I most cheerfully undertake,) together with the three first numbers, which I have carefully read, and bid you God speed. I have a number of the volumes of the Cultivator which I highly prize; but still I think we want a Prairie paper, more suited to our circumstances and locality. I have been a small farmer on my own account about 25 years—had some experience and much reading; and although I can turn a good furrow, I cannot turn a good pen, except it be a hog pen.

I have lived in the vicinity of La Porte seven years. I was born on the banks of the Hudson, and raised in the Empire State; still I like the West better. I have traveled much in our great valley. It only wants improving to become the Garden of the world, and the Granary of the United States. Nature has made her last effort in this valley at perfection; let us only add our efforts, and the thing is complete.

* * * *

Spring Wheat—I have cultivated for 25 years; sow as early as the ground can be got in order. I prefer the white bald to any I have ever tried. It wants first rate cultivation. Corn ground or potatoe ground is good, or ground ploughed in the fall is good. To put on stubble ground and late as some do, is no use; you cannot expect a crop. If you would avoid smut, sow your wheat that is clean and in dry weather; sow when rainy, and you will be sure of smut enough for your own use in either Winter or Spring Wheat.

J. I. Crandal.

Laporte, Feb. 1841.

Note.—Mr. C.'s letter, though written in Feb. is post marked in May. Had it been received earlier, some of our readers might have been benefited by the remarks upon Spring Wheat. As it is, they must remember their another year.

Mr. C. writes from one of the best counties in the West; and as it now has a flourishing Society, of which he is Secretary, we trust its members will unite in sustaining a prairie paper. We have made many warm and efficient friends in Northern Indiana—we are well aware more than are as yet deserved—but let them not give us up immediately, and we will endeavor to deserve their favors.

For the Union Agriculturist.

WORM FENCE.

"Heavy and unsightly" as they are, many of us find it expedient to make worm fences. Much of our timber will not make rails suitable for a post and rail fence; and sawmills are too scarce to allow us to think of board fences. Turf fences and ditches have been tried and found wanting; and it takes time to grow a hedge.

In making fences, two things are to be considered:—1. Efficiency; 2. Durability.

To secure the first, you must follow the directions of the law, and make your fence 5½ feet high, the upper rail being supported by strong stakes, well set in the ground: and the apertures within two feet of the ground must not be more than 4 inches wide; and within 2½ feet of the ground, not more than 6 inches wide; and the worm of the fence must be at least one-third the length of the rail.

The *durability* of the fence is greatly increased by attention to the manner of laying it up. Our most experienced farmers pursue the following course:

Having placed a sufficient number of ten feet rails, convenient to the line on which the fence is to stand; and having a sufficient number of blocks of 5 or 6 inches diameter, and from 4 to 6 feet long, to lay under the corners: the farmer sets up two rows of small straight stakes, the rows being 3 feet 4 inches apart. He then selects small, straight, strong, heart rails for the bottom, and performs the operation of laying the worm, frequently taking sight along the rows of stakes, and making the corners of the fence range with the same, and placing a block under each corner as he proceeds. In this manner the fence is made perfectly straight. On this foundation he proceeds to build the fence, putting the smallest and straightest rails near the bottom, and reserving the crooked and heavy rails for the top. The sap side of the rail should, if possible, always be placed downwards; as, if exposed to the rains and snows, it will speedily decay. If it cannot be laid downwards, it is better to lay it to the South than to the North; and the worst position in which a rail can be placed, is to have the sap side upwards. If it becomes necessary to notch a rail, let the notch be cut on the under side.

If the farmer attends to all these particulars, he will not lay up so many rails in a day, as he would if he disregarded them; but his fence will be vastly better, and last twice as long; a consideration of no small importance where rails cost four or five dollars a hundred.

George Churchill.

Ridge Prairie, Madison Co., Ill., April 27.

P. S.—If any farmer, on reading the above, shall exclaim, "Why, I knew all this before!" I will only say, that I did not write it for *him* but for the many "book farmers" who have not served a regular apprenticeship to the art, trade, and mystery of farming. G. C.

For the Union Agriculturist.

Kendal Co., Ill., 14th May, 1841.

AID TO THE U. A. S., &c.

Mr. John S. Wright,

Sir,—Sometime in March, I received three numbers of the Union Agriculturist, and examined them with much pleasure. To what unknown friend I was indebted for them, I could not conjecture. After some interval, your kind favor and the prospectus reached me. Your design and plan for promoting the cause of agriculture amongst us, and the execution so far, are thus before me; and meet my hearty approval. I have also noted and weighed your flattering request to unite in promoting the cause, both through the press, and in forming a County Society. Since the reception of all these, I have been so engaged in my farming operations and other duties, that an acknowledgement has been too long delayed. In any and every way that other duties will permit, I shall be very happy to lend my feeble aid to promote so good a cause as that, to which your Society—the paper—and your own personal services, are devoted. The time is favorable to the effort; the need of something being done for the cause, I have, in common with all reflecting farmers, felt seriously, and now rejoice in the opening prospect before us; yet cannot promise or perform much, except in hearty good wishes for success to accompany your labor.

My knowledge of farming by experience is but short. In this short period, however, I have felt my own deficiencies, and have painfully noted often those of others. If the public mind can be roused up to the subject, so that farmers shall become readers, and look with as much eagerness for your periodical and agricultural intelligencer, as they now do for the political paper, the first desideratum will be secured. Then, soon these beautiful prairies, which are now often deformed by ill-arranged, worse cultivated farms, will become studded over with such as will enchant the eye of the beholder, like the rich fields of England—the vine-yards of France—or the mulberry orchards of Italy. Before such a result can be reasonably anticipated, much is to be done for the education of the public mind. Our soils must be analyzed, that the hand of industry may be understandingly applied to them; and the culture best suited to them well and generally known; with many other things the proper subjects for discussion and dissemination through the agricultural press.

A few days since, the commissioners of our new county had their first meeting. With Mr L. Hills, one of them, the subject of a Society in the county was spoken of. I shall be happy to lend all the aid in my power in organizing one, and bringing it into co-operation with the U. A. S.

I have long thought of attending a meeting of your Society, and of becoming a member. At as early a day as I conveniently can, I shall avail myself of an opportunity to make myself better acquainted with your operations, and to tender to you, Sir, the best respects of

Royal Bullard.

For the Union Agriculturist.

Fulton City, Whiteside Co., Ill.
May, 1841.

Dear Sir,—As "variety in your paper is necessary, of course," you will doubtless excuse the first efforts of a *raw, untutored Yankee*. Just from the land of the Puritans, and being but little acquainted with farming *even there*; I am more desirous of learning, than attempting to *teach* my brother farmers.

I have purchased a tract of land in this place, and design to make a grazing and sheep growing farm. We are, you know, situated on the Mississippi River, some 50 miles South of Galena, and about 80 West of Dixons. There is much valuable land in this vicinity, and only needs to be known to be appreciated. I shall take the liberty of apprising you occasionally of our progress; and hope in time to be able to furnish an article worthy of your valuable paper. I hope it may succeed to your utmost wishes. Indeed it *must*, for the farmers of the prairies, so far as I have seen, are a reading, intelligent people; and only want to see and know of its existence to become universally its patrons. Your paper, too, will exert a beneficial effect at the East. *Many* there are wishing to remove to this country, and will only want its resources and capabilities fully developed to set them on their way. Your paper will have that effect; for many of its articles will find their way into the many agricultural and other periodicals of that region, and be read by their numerous readers.

I wish to enquire of some of your correspondents what are deemed the most valuable breeds of sheep for this vicinity—*wool* being the principal object. Excuse me,

Yours truly,

E. Leffingwell.

Note.—It is with no little pleasure we receive notice of the commencement of a sheep farm in the West. We are satisfied it is an example that will ere long be imitated by many. A couple of little scraps upon this subject in other columns, were prepared before the reception of Mr. L.'s letter.

We shall now expect efficient aid from that region, which heretofore we have made no exertion to obtain, because the aid given us would have taken from the support of the Stephonson paper. But as that has been stopped, we trust Mr. L., and other friends in that region, will be able to prove that the farmers around them have but "to see and know of its existence, to become universal patrons" of our paper.

According to Mr. L.'s promise, we shall look for frequent communications from him; and some other correspondents may be able to advise him as to the best breed of sheep. If we remember correctly, Mr. Bowen, of Savanna, Carroll Co., has had considerable experience in sheep-raising.

Will he not send in a letter for publication?

For the Union Agriculturist.

Marseilles, Lasalle Co.,
5th Mo. 12, 1841.

Friend Wright,—Enclosed I send one year's subscription for the Agriculturist. I am a subscriber for the Albany Cultivator also; but having, through the kindness of a neighbor, seen the three first Nos. of the Agriculturist, I was so much pleased with them, that I resolved to place my name on the list of its subscribers; and should be happy to be one of its contributors also, but I have been but two and a half years a resident of this State, and consequently have had but little time for experience, and still less for experiment.

I came here on the Illinois Bottom, in the winter—got out rails and fenced, and broke up in the spring. I sowed a few acres of wheat and oats, and planted the balance with corn and potatoes. They all grew pretty well; but the blackbirds eat up the oats in the milk: and with the coons, prairie chickens, crows, and wolves, destroyed most of the corn. They seem to prefer "sod corn; as I have seen it stand beside other and be nearly stripped, while the other would be scarcely touched. Last fall we harvested about 70 bushels of corn to the acre.

A Nursery.—Having "experimented" sufficiently on the "alligator" breed of hogs commonly found here; and seeing that a nursery was much wanted in this section, I visited New York last fall, chiefly to procure the the best the "Empire State" afforded in both departments. Being a fruit-grower by profession, I spared no pains to obtain in the vicinity of New York city, scions of the best varieties of the apple, pear, cherry, plumb, etc., that that market afforded and perhaps no city in the world, can boast of a variety of fruit superior to that which is annually found in the markets of New York. From these I hope, in a few years, to be able to supply the farmers of this section with trees which I can recommend.

Fine Pigs.—I also brought out three pigs of the Berkshire, Cheshire, and Lincoln breeds for a cross; which, so far as I could learn their properties, would best suit the wants of this region. I also intend to cross with the Leicester and Yorkshire breeds; both of which are of large size, and I think may be improved by crosses with the Berkshires.

The U. A. S—I was not aware of the existence of the U. A. S until quite recently; and knew as little of its organization and proposed plans, until I perused the three first numbers of its organ, as before mentioned. I approve of its gen-

veal features; but think that its labors will be scattered over too wide a field to be of much avail. This, with my location, upon one side of its bounds, will deter me from becoming one of its stockholders, for the present; but, perhaps, when I become better acquainted with it I may alter my opinion.

Having plenty of timber, I have not attempted to build any other than rail fence, as yet.

Post and Rail Fence.—I have built some post and rail fence this spring, six rails high. It takes less timber than worm fence; but more labor, and occupies much less ground. I tried the experiment of making post holes with a post auger; but the subsoil being a stiff clay, it did not do so well as a spade. I used a post axe in hulling some of my posts; and the remainder I bored with a two-inch auger, rigged with a crank to turn like a grindstone. The difference of labor was in favor of the auger; and I also prepared the form of the holes. I made them six inches long, and wedged the rails one above the other, instead of side-by-side, as in those cut with the axe. This gives an opportunity to drive the rails tighter, without any danger of splitting the post. Some object to post and rail fence, because the frost heaves it out of place; but I think that is owing to the post being too small, and not set deep enough. I set mine over two feet.

I do not think the wild crab or plumb can be made available for hedges, as they are difficult about living when transplanted. I transplanted some of them a year ago, with the view of grafting on them if they did well; but I preferred paying a high price for seedlings, to using them even after they were dug. My neighbors who have tried them, tell the same story.

Dispose of this hasty written scrawl as its merits justify.

D. C. UNDERHILL.

NOTE.—We conform with Mr. U's. request by inserting his letter without alteration

Why is it that so many in writing, instead of enclosing a little money on subscriptions in the capital stock of the U. A. S., offer some reason for postponing to subscribe? Do they ever think how discouraging such a letter may prove? The reason for declining to subscribe may seem a good and sufficient one to the writer; but it must be stronger than most that we see, to make it satisfactory to those hard at work in forwarding the enterprise. How different would be the effect, were letters frequently received containing ardent wishes of success! and, as an evidence of the writer's sincerity, containing also a subscription to one or more shares of the stock. Such would be tangible—something more than circumstantial—evidence of their interest in the cause

But we mean no insinuation against the sincerity of Mr. U., or of many others who have sent similar communications. The letter itself is evidence that he only wishes to understand the plan of operations, to be an able coadjutor. And in order it possible to improve upon the plan of the U. A. S., let us have a discussion through the columns of its organ. We refer our readers to page 5, in No 1, of this paper; and ask any one to reply to those arguments in favor of the present plan. With many the reasons there adduced in favor of an extensive organization, quite counterbalance its evils; and let the evils be named, and see whether they cannot be removed.

For the Union Agriculturist.

ROCKFORD, April 26, 1841.

WINNEBAGO CO SOCIETY—IRISH GRAZIERS, &c.

DEAR SIR, * * * *

We have succeeded in forming an Agricultural Society in this Co., which consists of some 30 members at present; with a fair prospect I think of its numbering at least 200 in the course of the season, with proper efforts on the part of those who have already embodied themselves. The constitution, written and adopted in a hurry, is not in just such a shape as we wish to have it when published; it will, therefore, not be forwarded for publication, until after a meeting of the officers, which is to take place on the 22d of next month. I shall endeavor in the mean time—and at that time—to bring the claims of your paper before the Society and others for subscriptions, and doubt not that a goodly number of subscribers may be obtained.

* * * * * *

But if you cannot represent it—"Irish Beauty," a drawing of which sent us by Mr. N., was noticed on pages 32 and 34,—to the general appearance, equal to the sketch, I would not have it published; as my object is not to gratify myself merely, but to give a fac simile of a pure "Irish Grazier" sow, of the age stated by me; and to show in that representation, points which indicate their superior propensity to fatten easily at any age, and *carry* their fat. Irish Beauty gained in weight, from the day that she was two months, to three months old, 45 lbs. and upwards, (as the sleighards would weigh no more, and the weight at that was very quick,) and ran on a 2d acre lot the whole month with seven other pigs, half Irish and half Byfield, the same age, and on the same feed—good, but not the best—which did not gain 20 lbs. each, and now she would undoubtedly outweigh three of the best of them, if not four, and I have the authority of a gentleman on whom I can rely, that he made one of my pure-bloods gain 2½ lbs. per day, for some weeks before it was six months old, and then at seven months and fourteen days old, exhibited it for a premium, and was beaten by two or three pigs of the same *blood* and *litter*. And a few days since, a very intelligent farmer of this Co., who has been a constant reader of the Cultivator, and, of *course*, become much prejudiced in favor of the Berkshire hogs, and been to some expense to get into that breed—on calling to view my Irish Graziers, said freely, "that my sows were as fine in every respect, and as compactly formed as any Berkshire he had ever seen; and he thought at least *one-third* heavier at the same age." And if these things are so, the public ought to be apprised of the fact, through agricultural papers, and had not your paper been issued at the time it was, I should have made known to the editors of the Cultivator my convictions and proofs, that the "Irish Graziers" are, in *every respect*, a far more profitable breed of hogs than the Berkshires or Leicestershires; possessing all the grazing and early fattening qualities of the one, and all the capacity for being continually and profitably grown, until they are from two to five years old, when, as a *breed* they may be made to outweigh any *breed*, even of few isolated individuals,—that I have—except a few isolated individuals,—that I have ever seen, heard, or read of, and I am satisfied that no better pork can be made at the same age, and on the same feed, than Irish Graziers will produce. And should all circumstances permit, the coming fall I will be anxious to have the best hogs of any other breed, shown against my breeders;—and if mine can be beaten, I shall, of course, want a cross of the *best* on mine, and wish to purebase; otherwise I shall follow the

Breeding "in and in" system, until I can see some signs of deterioration in the progeny. At present, my conviction is,—and that from experience—that any breed may be improved by *judicious* selections and breeding in and in, if they are not perfect at the commencement; as well are corn or other grain, roots, and plants may be improved by selections from the best, and good cultivation. My plan has been to select the longest and largest, and that bone and make which appeared to promise the longest and largest growth, and good constitution—having due regard to other points necessary to make a good hog,—but minor in the selection of a male to cross on to compact built females: and in the selection of females, I choose those of the most equal breadth—round hodies—short leg—small ears—short nose—thin hair and fine skin—with as much length as *possible*, consistent with an unquestionable aptitude to fatten at any age, which may always be determined by the jowl, which should be plump and heavy enough for beauty, to say the least—with straight, trim legs, and not too slender, by any means; for by the leg of an animal when young, a person of observation and judgment in these matters, may to a certainty judge what the size may be when grown; provided the growth shall not be stunted by disease or starvation. With these rules kept in view, and acted upon, hogs will not be *run out* I think, as I am positive, that my present stock of pigs the most in-bred, are equal if not superior, to any that I have ever raised, and I cannot fall into the popular theory, as yet,—that money without measure must be annually *exported* in order to *import fresh crosses* for our stock, *even inferior* in some cases, to that which we have already, and for which there is at present no market. When we have a surplus of the "ready," and cannot find or produce what we need in our own country, the "out and out" system will operate better than it does at present. But I have written out my paper, and perhaps exhausted your patience, and will close for the present, and remain your friend and obedient servi.

J. S. NORTON.

N B.—My present lot of pigs are all ordered and some more. T Fanning, associate Editor Nashville Agriculturist, says, in a letter which I have just received. "Dr. Martin, of Kentucky, is feeding some Woburn pigs against some of my Berkshires, and will beat me very easily: and I wish to get a pair of your pure Irish Graziers as soon as possible, in order that I may test their feeding properties." I shall have no more pigs to spare till fall

In answer to some inquires from your district, yes *may* say, if you please, that Daniel O'Connell is let to sows at $2 each, keeping extra, at 25 cents per week.

I would send you a few Russia pumpkin seeds if I knew of an opportunity. They grow very large. I raised one of a small growth that weighed 105 lbs. They may be grown to weigh nearly double that, if they can be planted early enough. They are soft rind, rather greenish, striped with nutmeg colored seams in various directions—boil to a pulp very easily, and that appears very sweet. I raised but two ripe ones last season, as the seeds (three in number) were planted too late. J. S. N.

NOTE.—We shall be exceedingly obliged to Mr. N for some of the pumpkin seeds; and presents of a similar kind from others will be most highly prized, and duly acknowledged. When in our power, we shall be happy to return favors of the kind.

Such descriptions as Mr N. has furnished of the Irish Graziers, will be highly prized by those desirous of improvements in our breeds of animals They can not come too often. There must be other farmers in the West possessed of similar experience, why do they not aid us as much as Mr. N.'

For the Union Agriculturist.

FENCING.

LONG GROVE, Kendall Co, Ill }
May, 1841. }

Mr. Editor,—In your May No. is an article from Mr. Goodsell of Lockport on "Fencing." A subject of more importance *to Illinois* cannot absorb the public attention. It transcends infinitely the questions of the currency, of the presidency, of peace or war, or of what party and its demagogues, under the specious cloak of "patriotism," (!) shall, as "victors" over their fellow citizens, "divide the spoils"! What is gold or rags, "Tip and Tyler too," (both men of honorable and excellent report in their generation, though they be), disputed claims, or demo(n)cratic demagougal clamors to the prairie farmer, compared with the substantial, safe, economical and permanent defence of his fields against the depredations of horses, hogs and herds!

I am glad to see Col. Gooding put on his accoutrements and draw the sword, not of Damascus, but of intellectual, temper, to combat the, to some, formidable obstacles to the settlement of the sky-bounded plains of Illinois. He is sanguine; but perhaps not too much so. I believe with him, reasoning *a priori* that but few years will pass ere the prairies will acquire great accessions of flocks and herds, and men. He very correctly supposes that the great stumbling block in the way of emigrants is *the expense of fencing;* but I would suggest the inquiry whether he has not in effect aggravated the evil by the *estimate* he has given, and which he has most praiseworthily endeavored to supersede? When I commenced reading his communication, I was in hopes he was about to propose some scheme by which the settler might be relieved of the trouble, labour, and expense of lumber, nails, post-setting, hauling and their accompanying et ceteras. While he has, I am afraid set his embanking and ditching per rod at a price less than a *workman* would undertake it, I think he has placed his lumber too high at $20 per M text. But suppose we strike out his posts, boards, nails and workmanship, which I opine to be unnecessary, and add on 25 cents per rod for the embanking, 50 cts being nearer the mark, as these parts at least, for such work, his computation would be reduced to $880 for 320 acres, made up of 40 acre lots.

But I should think a prairie settler would do well in commence operations upon a more limited and economical scale. If he will, let him purchase of "Uncle Sam" his 320 acres, but why burden himself with fencing the whole at once? It is a losing concern to any settler, however wealthy, to invest nearly $2,000 in fencing, $100 for his deed and a proportional outlay for buildings, stock, &c. It may truly be termed a sinking fund in these times of no returns for grain, flesh, butter, cheese, &c., worthy to be named or thought of. Besides, persons having command of such ample means are not the working men of the community All the farming done on their demesnes, is done by deputy, a system which, when engrafted on an enormous outlay, in a few years leaves the proprietor "a wretch indeed." I could cite instances in point.

A ditch on each side of the embankment is certainly to be preferred. If the upper surface of the sod be turned inwards, the blue or other grass ought to be in readiness to sow as soon as the state of things will permit; for if the bank be first formed and the grass seed be not accessible, the winter's frost may seriously affect the work. I do not consider the Colonel's embankment high enough It ought to be a breastwork, such as he would throw up to defend an encampment from the thunder bolts of an enemy in the field. My idea is, that what an animal's eye does not see, it will not long for, as they are the creatures of current impressions and impulses. If so, the work ought to be high enough to conceal from them the growing crops, while holding their heads at their natural elevation

But to make this concealment complete, something should be planted on the top of the bank. I know of nothing better adapted to this purpose than the

Honey Locust.—This is a tree, which in Virginia and Ohio, where I have seen it, grows to a considerable height, having a leaf much handsomer than the common locust, and bearing bunches of yellow flowers and which are superseded by pods, of lengths differing from three to eighteen inches. These contain numerous seeds of a parched coffee colour as large as certain beans, and along the junction of the valves of the pods is a glazy secretion, of the consistence and sweetness of honey, and with which the negroes in the south sweeten their "persimmon beer" The stem of the tree when growing by itself is several inches in diameter, and studded with clusters of formidable spines, spines shooting out from spines, from two to three inches long, which would literally decorticate the hapless hog that should venture to experiment upon them.

This growth of the Honey Locust may be controlled by close planting and pruning. I have planted of them what I term an experimental hedge. In the fall of 1839, I collected, on my journey from Virginia to this country, a quantity of the seed; some in that State, but principally from trees growing in the islands of the Scioto River. In the spring of 1840, I planted them in my garden. In the fall of the same year they were trees many of them over a rod high. Lest the frost should kill them, I dug up all save seven or eight, and buried them under mould in a cellar. I might have saved myself this trouble, for those left out stood the winter well. This spring I set them out in ground well and deeply dug, and staked line, between my foreyard and garden. I planted them in two rows as straight as a line could make them, 12 inches apart in the rows, and the rows six inches distant from each other. I did not plant the trees opposite to each other; but set out those of the second row, opposite *the middles of the intervals* of the first, thus " " " " They are doing well, are of rapid growth, and will, I think, make a first rate and formidable fence to hold, hog or hen.

As a substitute then for the Colonel's lumber, I would propose to plant the honey locust seed in double rows as above indicated, on the top of a sub-tantial breastwork, double mounted: and then I think the prairie farmers may defy all quadrupeds and bipeds, and rejoice in independence of the groves, if not for fuel, at least for fencing off his fields. JOHN THOMAS

Addenda.—Will some one of your readers, competent to the task, please to furnish your paper with an article on the raising, breaking and management of stud horses. I have a cull, full blooded that I should like to preserve as a stallion, and at the same time use him for any kind of work. The encouragement at present is too meagre to keep such an animal solely *pro bono publico.*

For the Union Agriculturist.

ELGIN, May 29 1841.

BEET SUGAR, NO. III.

Mr. Wright,—I now undertake to redeem the pledge made in my last, of giving you the results of some experiments on a small scale, recently made in the manufacture of sugar from beets. A sample of the product you will probably receive on Monday or Tuesday. The article now made, which I manufactured this week, is far from being equal in quality to some small parcels which I made three years since, but fully answers my expectations, considering the bad state of the beets worked. The beets were much injured by the frosts of last fall, having been left out late. Freezing even a portion of the beet, occasions a fermentation of the juice, which extends to a greater or less degree thro' the beet. And fermentation, from whatever cause produced, destroys chrystalising power in the saccharine matter contained. You will observe in the sample I send something of an unpleasant or rancid taste, occasioned by the fermentation referred to above, and the uncrystalisable portion remaining in it. Every material from which sugar is made contains a portion of uncrystalisable saccharine called molasses. Vast quantities are produced by cane sugar makers. The portion is much increased by fermentation, and is held among the chrystals with great tenacity. In working two small parcels in March last, when I used less care to throw out the frozen beets, the graining did not commence under a week from the boiling. In this sample it commenced within three hours. Were it placed in a situation to drain properly, the chrystalising would progress for some time, and the taste improve.

It is now generally admitted by experienced manufacturers, that when the first set of leaves ripen and dry up, the beet is in its best condition for producing sugar If left in the ground, new leaves are thrown out, and grow until arrested by frost. This second growth of leaves, tends to deteriorate the quality of the beet, and diminish the amount of saccharine. It commences generally in this section, if the beets are planted in May, the latter part of August; and the beets should be harvested before it is allowed to progress far.

Mr Child relates an incident which occurred in France, the substance of which I will give, A gentleman in the Department of Landes in the South of France, planted a quantity of land with beets, preparatory to starting a sugar factory in the fall. He, as is usual before commencing the manufacture, began experimenting upon his beets in July, which he continued to do weekly until the last of August, and invariably obtained a product of from three to four per cent. of good sugar. He then, feeling sure of his crop, and satisfied with the results, discontinued his experiments and devoted his attention to completing his sugar house and apparatus But on commencing his operations at manufacturing in Nov., to his utter astonishment and vexation, he found his beets contained no chrystalisable sugar, and yielded nothing but syrup and saltpetre.

The saccharine richness of the beet, is influenced much by local peculiarities in the soil. All saline impregnations are injurious to it. A report was made in 1837, to the central Society of Agriculture in France, stating that several sugar factories in Hungary had been unsuccessful, which was attributed to a saline efflorescence which manifested itself on the surface of the soil This report recommended that such beets should be planted with beets for forage once or twice, which takes up the salts. These variations caused by the nature of the soil and the method of culture, account for the conflicting opinions and statements which we find in relation to the value of the beet crop. Our dry prairie soils, I am satisfied, are favorable to the beet; especially those containing some portion of sand. They should not be manured the same season the beets are planted. Let a crop of corn be raised with manuring the previous season, and plough the land well the fall before planting with beets, which come off seasonably for sowing winter wheat. If they are well tilled and harvested before a second growth of foliage has diminished the saccharine, and destroyed its chrystalising power, there is no mistake but sugar will be found in them. The beets maturing so early in this country, is very favorable, as in consequence the time for manufacturing, before the necessity of securing against frost, is lengthened.

As I remarked in the first No., after grating the beet and extracting the juice,—which may be done by any process, or in any manner, which suits the operator, provided it be done with despatch, and that every thing with which the pulp or juice comes in contact be scalded and kept as sweet and clean as a good housewife would keep her dairy utensils, so that no fermentation commences;—the first step is

To defecate the juice. This is the most important part of the whole. If it be well done, the whole is perfectly simple; and it is useless to proceed further until it be well done. Our common building lime is unsuitable for the purpose; although the best of it, that which slacks very finely, will answer. It should be slacked in a tight vessel under cover, so as to retain the steam; then made into a whitewash by stirring in, one pound of lime to about two quarts of water. This milk of lime should be used in the proportion of about two-thirds of an ounce of lime, to a gallon of beet juice. The juice, as soon as it can be obtained from the pulp, should

be put over the fire and warmed to about the temperature of new milk. The form of a kettle for defecating should be one of more depth than diameter. The milk of lime is then to be poured in, and the juice thoroughly stirred. If the defecation be prompt, the juice will soon be full of little flakes or curdles coursing about. If on taking up some of the juice in a spoon, these flakes or curdled impurities soon precipitate, leaving the juice looking pure and transparent, the defecation is good; if it still appears thick and impure, no precipitation taking place, add a little more lime until the effect is produced, not suffering it to boil. As soon as these indications of good defecation are obtained, the juice should be taken from the fire, and within an hour it will be settled; the impurities having gone down with the lime, leaving the surface clear and rum colored. The pure juice may then be ponred off; and if the sediment be disturbed as little as possible, it will continue to precipitate, leaving more and more pure juice for 24 hours. This defecated juice is now ready for the filter.

JAMES T. GIFFORD.

For the Union Agriculturist.

TIME IS MONEY.

Dear Sir—I begin to fear that yourself and others may think that I do nothing but write; as I send you something for every number of your paper. Well, suppose that should be the conclusion,—if I had nothing else to do all would be well. But farmers have something to do, besides writing for agricultural papers. This all know, how then, many will inquire, does C. find time to write. If I may answer the question myself, I shall say, that I am troubled to dispose of my spare time—of the long winter evenings—of the stormy days, and a great many bits and ends of time.

I may be answered—teach your children; make and mend such articles as you can that you need; read the newspapers, and such books as you have or can get: this I do and yet there is spare time.

My wife and self manage to teach seven children; and during the winter, keep them at their studies more hours than if at school. I make and repair all the wood part of my tools, and some of the iron, and repair all our boots and shoes; my wife and daughters, the oldest sixteen, work up our wool, about seventy pounds, both spin and weave it; myself and boy, the oldest 15 years old, till about forty acres, and provide food for stock that requires about forty tons of hay, besides all the coarse fodder that we can muster; this, besides all the incidental work about the house and farm, we do without hiring. Books and papers are literally worn out by being read. The Chicago Democrat, or Union Agriculturist, is hailed with as much joy as an old friend; and if, as we frequently do, we receive a paper from distant friends, nothing could give greater pleasure, except the appearance of those same friends.

A great wonder with me is, how men and families spend their time, without even a paper or a book, or any thing of the kind. Even their Bible might as well be made of wood, bound and gilt to save appearances, as to be filled with the Word of God.

Never have I written, except in the evening, and then generally have some half dozen children about the same table at their studies.—Some with slates, some with books, and some with more mischief than study. Even now, one little one pops up her head with, 'Father, how much is eleven times six?' Set down eleven and multiply it by six, "what six times eleven?" no six times one, and then six times one again "O! I see: sixty six." Now multiply eleven by 7, 8 and 9 in the same way: so I write, teach and rest myself; at the same time kill *three* birds with one stone.

Now to my reasons for writing. If I say that I write to benefit others, none will believe me in these selfish times; well then, I write to amuse myself, to kill time.

A CHURCHILL.

Avon, March, 1841.

NOTE.—The remark has often been made, that the West has more to fear from the indolence of its inhabitants—a natural consequence of the ease with which the soil is cultivated, than from any other cause; but if Mr C's course were adopted generally, the danger would be removed. No man *can* read the above statement, without increased respect for Mr. C—and no man *should* read it, without determining to adopt a similar course himself. But the main feature is that the truth is *readily* applicable to every body—*except the reader.* If half a dozen neighbors should be reading this communication at the same time, each one would say to himself—now if neighbor A. or B. would do like this, how much he would accomplish! or of how much benefit it might be to him! Now just let each take care of number one; and as the *moral*, be careful that you so economise your time that you can send frequent communications to the Union Agriculturist.

For the Union Agriculturist.

SHEEP.

NORTHAMPTON, Peoria Co., May 22, '41.

Mr Editor,—You so frequently remind us farmers of our obligations to write for the paper, that I have sat me down to try my hand; and whether I succeed or not in bringing out any thing worthy of a place in its columns, you must acknowledge that I have discharged a part of the obligation alluded to; for I shall do the best I can.

Sheep.—The inquiry is frequently made by visitors to Illinois, whether the country is good for sheep or not. My own experience, on a small scale, enables me to say "No country is better." Wolves once out of the country, so that sheep need not be guarded nights, and we can compete with our neighbors on either side. I have generally raised from thirty to fifty per cent. in lambs above the number of my ewes. My fleeces have generally averaged from 3 to 3½ pounds, when ready for the machine. I feed corn. I will here observe that a mistaken notion prevails to a considerable extent, with respect to feeding corn to sheep. Many suppose that sheep cannot be made to do well without roots of some kind. Such is not the fact. Give corn plentifully to sheep the whole feeding season, and no fear need be entertained of their shedding their wool, or of the ewes not giving plenty of milk for their lambs. The lambs in the fall soon learn to eat it; they soon become fond of it, and seldom if ever cloy. I consider nature a good director in these things, and if it may be depended upon, no food equals corn for sheep; for their lean they will eat so well all seasons of the year. Even when they have plenty of grass they will eat it like a hog, and appear to be equally as fond of it. S. T. MCKEAG.

NOTE.—We have not room in this No. for all of Mr McKean's communication; but this part being so appropriate for it, we must crowd it in. The remainder upon hogs shall be given in the next. At this rate, he will not long be in arrears to the other correspondents of the paper, for information furnished by them. Would we could say the same of many other of our readers, capable of writing as valuable articles. But there are some who will never instruct others, however valuable may be the information they have obtained. And why? simply because *they do not try.* Reader, we fear you belong to this class; for but a small proportion of our subscribers are reckoned among the correspondents. Please do get out of this class in our opinion it is any thing but respectable.

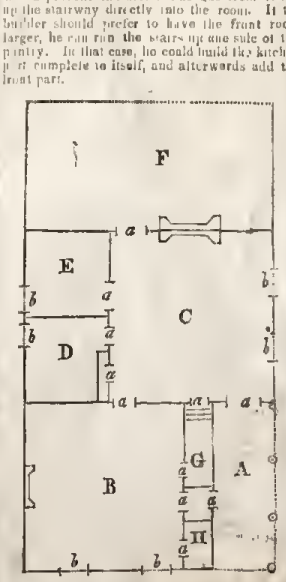
What a difference in the yield of wool does this show, from that represented by the census. Other statements will be most acceptable.—Let us learn *by facts* as to the adaptation of our country to sheep.

PLAN OF A FARM HOUSE.

LAKE C. H., IA., May 5, 1841.

Editor of the Union Agriculturist.

Enclosed I send you a plan for a small cheap farm house, 24 by 32 feet, and one-and-a-half story high. I have designed to set the South end to the road, so that the main entrance would be on the South end of the porch, and thence into either room. The East side of the porch, I should hope to see ornamented with woodbine, honeysuckle, or some of the family of creepers. In the summer time, such a porch would be the pleasantest part of the house—a delightful fragrant shade in a sultry afternoon. You see I have made a good-sized kitchen, for in a farm house this is the room principally occupied by the whole family; and should be so arranged that it will be warm and pleasant in winter, and easily ventilated in summer. The shed at the North end will protect that side, and afford room for wood etc, and in summer will be very useful for washing, soap-making, and other rough work. In placing the stairs, I have not calculated for a cellar, as I do not believe that, in this climate and soil, it is healthy to have a cellar under the dwelling; but if one is required, I would open the door on to the porch, which would prevent the deleterious gas from rising up the stairway directly into the room. If the builder should prefer to have the front room larger, he can run the stairs up one side of the pantry. In that case, he could build his kitchen part complete to itself, and afterwards add the front part.



DESCRIPTION: A piazza, 6 by 16 feet; B parlor, 15 by 16; C kitchen, 16 by 16, D pantry, 8 by 8, including cupboard; E bedroom, 8 by 8; F a shed, with lean-to roof, 12 feet deep, more or less; G stairs 3 by 8, door from the kitchen—if there is no cellar a closet can be made under them, opening into the parlor; H a closet, 3 by 5 opening into the parlor, a doors, b windows.

I wish, if you should publish this, that you would procure a detailed bill of cost, at present Chicago prices. I think it would be useful, and might enable some poor settler to build a comfortable and convenient house, without (as some have done) "building himself out of house and home" by going beyond his means.

I am, with much respect, your friend

SOLON ROBINSON.

For the Union Agriculturist.

WISCONSIN ENCOURAGEMENT.

MILWAUKEE, May 1, 1841.

FRIEND WRIGHT,—Owing to my absence from home, I have not had an opportunity of perusing the former numbers of the Union Agriculturist; and was not advised of my appointment as your agent at this place, until I discovered my name in the April No., which came to hand last week. I am so highly pleased with its appearance and contributions, that I enclose five dollars and request you to forward to my address the requisite number of copies, which I shall distribute among some of my friends in the country, who might otherwise be deprived of the benefits which will result from its perusal. I shall embrace every opportunity to add to your list of subscribers. We want an agricultural paper almost entirely *Western* in its character—in short, such an one as yours bids fair to become. Those who take an interest, or are employed in agricultural pursuits, will be benefited by such a publication, more especially the recent emigrant who has located his farm among us, as it will place within his reach the means of learning the peculiar characteristics and adaptations of our soil and climate, and of early becoming acquainted with the results of *Western* experience, which will enable him to employ his capital and labor to the best possible advantage.

With the hope that the success of the U. A. may exceed the most sanguine expectations of its friends and patrons, and many wishes for the prosperity and happiness of its editor.

I subscribe myself, your friend and obedient servant, GEO. REED.

For the Union Agriculturist.

PEPEKATONIE, May 28, 1841.

BLACK TOOTH IN HOGS.

Mr. Wright,

Dear Sir.—Can any of your correspondents give any information about the black tooth among hogs? It is a disease to which hogs are quite liable about here; though as far as I have noticed, the prairie racers are more subject to it than others. Were it *confined* to them, I should bid it speed; for I regard all that tribe of swine, as at present, a positive curse to this country. They breed like rabbits, overrun creation, jump fences, glide between rails like sixpences, eat and root up crops, remaining still leaner than before, and, worst of all, keep out better breeds. But of the black tooth. A fine pig of mine, though of what breed I am uncertain, lost the use of his limbs, appeared partly blind, and troubled much, all over. I examined and found one tooth on each side of the upper jaw black. I immediately extracted them with a pair of pincers. This was six weeks ago. The pig is now just able to walk. Can any one say—What are the causes of the disease? What breeds are liable? Are the Berkshires? Irish Graziers? Leicestershires? What other remedies than knocking out the *black* teeth? What preventives?

Yours respectfully,

J. A. WIGHT.

For the Union Agriculturist

OTTAWA, July 13, 1841.

GENUINE ENCOURAGEMENT.

John S. Wright, Esq.—Enclosed I send one dollar for one years subscription to the Union Agriculturist; which please forward to this place.

I wish to become a member of the U. A. S.; and for that purpose enclose $4,00, which please credit me on account of stock, and subscribe for me as many shares as it will pay the first instalment on.

Yours truly,

L. P. SANGER.

NOTE.—We have not received a letter with so much pleasure as the above, for many weeks. Mr. S. shows conclusively that he really *feels* an interest in the prosperity of the U. A. S. We are happy to receive such communications as may be found in other columns, from Mr. Underhill and Mr. Bullard, for such men need only to learn some of the plan to become efficient helpers, but in no way can a writer so surely prove his desire to see this noble cause advance, as by adopting Mr. Sanger's course; and to those engaged heart and soul in it, nothing can be so encouraging. With the brightening prospect of the farmers, we shall expect to see the U. A. S. take a fresh start. If all who would like to subscribe, do not feel able to take as many shares as Mr. S., (or he) let them take one or more. But let there be a general subscription.

For the Union Agriculturist.

ELGIN, May 29th 1841.

GREAT YIELD OF WOOL.

Mr. Editor—The following statement of the product of wool from four fine wool sheep, a cross of Saxony and Merino, I deem worth publishing; not knowing but there may be other cases of fleeces clipped to this section, equally remarkable.

Mr. Darius Howell, a very respectable farmer of this vicinity, sheared of wool washed and dried wool, last week, from a ewe and buck which he brought from N. Y., and two yearlings—a buck and ewe, the progeny of the first mentioned, thirty three pounds and nine ounces.

The fleece of the old buck weighed			8 lb.	6 oz.
"	"	ewe	" 7	9
"	yearling buck		" 8	12
"	"	ewe	" 8	14
			33 lb.	19 oz.

The heaviest clip of the old buck in N. Y., where he had come to maturity, was six pounds. The increased amount of fleece from the old sheep, and the still greater amount of wool from the yearlings reared here, speak well for the wool growing advantages of Illinois.

Yours,

JAMES T. GIFFORD.

For the Union Agriculturist.

LISBON, June 18, 1841.

KENOAL CO. AUX. SOCIETY, &c.

J. S. Wright, Esq.—Sir, I have been appointed a committee of correspondence for the Kendal Agricultural Society, Auxiliary to the U. A. Society, for the purpose of preparing a constitution for said Society. Now sir, I should esteem it a favor if you would prepare a constitution, that could be uniformly adopted by the several counties, that should form auxiliary societies.

Please insert in your next No. of the Union Agriculturist a suitable form, &c.

A Large Calf.—There was slaughtered on the 17th inst., upon this farm, by Miles Hills, a calf 5 months old, (fattened upon milk alone,) whose quarters weighed 248 lbs

Very Respectfully Yours,

LEVI HILLS.

NOTE.—On page 47 will be found a sketch of a Constitution, prepared as requested, though with too much haste.

MICHIGAN CITY, Aug 20, 1841.

DELAY OF THE PAPER, RED SORREL, &c.

Ed of Union Agriculturist.

SIR—It is now about three months since your valuable paper has made its appearance here. What is the matter? Have the friends of Agriculture suffered it to go down? Or have you forgotten your friends in Northern Indiana? The latter I think is not the case; but I am fearful you do not receive that patronage which you deserve, and which is essential to make a valuable agricultural paper. I notice among editors generally, a disposition to complain of the neglect of their patrons, both in matters of finance, and that aid and advice from their pens, which so many are capable of giving. It is indeed to be lamented that so many talented farmers, feel it to be too much of a burthion, to drop a few lines of encouragement to their printer—to informing him, and through him, his numerous readers, of some new *truths* he has discovered in the science of Agriculture; of some new improvement in his farm stock; or of the best way in which to get rid of many of those *pests* which are the source of so much trouble to the Agriculturist.

Red Sorrel.—Will you, or some friend, advise us in Laporte county, of how to get rid of the "red sorrel"? With my limited knowledge of Agriculture, I know it to be a great annoyance, and one that should be disposed of soon; and the only way I ever heard of, was to cover it up with straw or manure, and smother it. Is there any better mode? If so, please let it be known, for it has made its appearance on Door Prairie, and is spreading rapidly. Excuse me for troubling you with the above, as I am but a poor hand with the pen

Yours in faith, S.

NOTE.—We thank our friend from Northern Indiana for his warm interest in the success of the paper. Who can he be?

We will, as briefly as possible, explain the cause of the protracted delay in the paper. The June No. was printed the first of June, but owing to disagreement with the printer, we were unable to procure it. We waited along till towards the last of the month, in hopes of effecting a compromise; and then, seeing no prospects of it, got out an "extra" explaining the cause of the delay, which was sent to every subscriber. We had sent for type to N York city, a few days previous, and supposing there would be no doubt of its arriving in due time, left copy to be set, and took a tour into the country, to see how the farmers felt about the paper. On our return, instead of finding the No all ready for the press, as was expected, the type had not come, the order not having been correctly prepared; or rather a stipulation on our part having been inserted, which should have been left out. It was then thought best not to wait till type could be obtained from New York, but to send to Buffalo. And we received a reply from the foundry there, that the order could not be filled under four or five weeks. To wait patiently that long we thought would not be as agreeable to our subscribers as to receive a number or two printed with different type, although it were somewhat worn. We therefore do the best we can, and send them this No. and one more like it, just to show that "the friends of Agriculture" have not "suffered it to go down," when we shall have new type expressly for the paper, and then intend it shall shine.

Could we have anticipated this delay in the paper, or even the delay of ten days, when the difficulty first originated, we would have settled with the printer on his own terms; had it cost considerably more than the difference between us, which was about $30. The chagrin and disappointment it has occasioned our friends and us, we consider dear-bought for the sum saved.

The greatest injury the delay will work to the paper, is, that many who had intended to pat-

ronize it, will hereafter consider it uncertain—it may be continued or it may not;—and they will wait to see the result. Some half dozen other Agricultural papers that were commenced in the West, having gone down, they will look upon this unfortunate delay as threatening a like result. But there is no mistake, *the paper hereafter can be depended upon*; and the back No's shall be got out as fast as possible. When again even with the time, the paper shall appear regularly on the 1st of the month. So, neighbor, please lend a helping hand.

EXTRACTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Edson Harkness, of Peoria co, wrote us sometime since, that he had a fine lot of grafted fruit trees to sell: and to those who would purchase a large lot of from four to twelve thousand, he would sell at a great bargain. As he offers them so low, we will not take the responsibility of publishing his terms. Any one wishing to engage in an enterprise of this kind, would probably do well to write at visit him. His P. O. is Tivoli, Peoria co.

Mr H. said he would send us communications upon the culture of fruit trees; and the information being just what many of our readers would like, we hope to begin to receive them soon. We should like a series of short letters, containing full instructions for raising trees, and protecting them from the various insects that prey upon them.

Mr. Chester Ingersoll, of Plainfield, Will co., says in his communication "I had made arrangements with several to take the paper, (the Agriculturist,)—they now say there is no dependence on the paper, and they will take the New York paper"

We fear this will be the feeling of many; but we trust those who have received promises to subscribe, will once more lay the paper before those who now decline, and give some reasons why this should receive the patronage of the Western farmer. We assure any and all, that this paper can be depended upon. The publication of it, in as good style and as large as it has been heretofore, *is certain*; and we hope with another volume to add to it four pages more.

Mr Thomas C. Legate, writes from Galena, wishing information relative to a good reeping machine. Mr. Churchill's will probably answer his purpose. A variety of agricultural machines we shall hope to have this fall at the Repository.

Mr. P. W Dewey, of McHenry co., writes he would take pleasure in aiding the U. A. S if he understood more of the plan—thinks the country sections important, etc. There are so few copies of our paper taken in Mr Henry, that the inhabitants know very little of what is doing a bout the U A S Cannot Mr D and others induce a pretty general attendance at the Fair? In that way many would be enlisted in the cause.

Mr. J. H. Goodin, of Pike co., writes us a first-rate letter which we should like to give entire, but have not room. He thinks we have touched upon three of the most important subjects for Illinois—Tobacco, Hemp and Silk But the man, while writing a part of the letter, must have been a little out of his head, for he speaks of seeking "a more congenial clime" by going to Texas. As he says his going depends upon his selling his farm, we hope he distant will be the day that he finds a purchaser Our prairies are not so thickly occupied es yet, that we can furnish emigrants. We thank him for his kind wishes and offers.

Hon. H. W. Thornton, of Mercer co., says he intends as soon as harvest is over, to call meetings in the different precincts for the purpose of organising a county agricultural society. It is what should be done in every county in the West. We hope all the Societies in Illinois will be organised auxiliary to the State Society.

Mr. R L Allen, of Buffalo, writes as wishing we should take charge of page, etc., he may send to this place for persons in the interior This we shall do with pleasure; and any kind of stock consigned to us shall have the best of attention.

Mr. J. M Weeks, of Vermont, the patentee of a very fine bee hive, has sent us authority to dispose of the right in use there, upon the following conditions. Any one may make and use the hives, not exceeding three in number, for one or two years, then if they like them, they may pay for the right,—which we believe is in all cases $5 for each individual, and he may use himself as many as he pleases;—but if they let them go out of use they need pay nothing. Those one could object to. A sample of the hives can be seen at the Repository.

Rev. T. S. Hinde, of Monet Carmel, in a recent communication from him, says he has sent his last letter for publication. This we regret much to hear, though he has probably done his part of such work.

Encouragement from a Lady.—"I do not suppose, my dear friend, that my communication will benefit your paper, yet I flatter myself that a line from the friend of your early and later days will not be unacceptable. We are very happy to see so good an agricultural paper, under the care of an esteemed acquaintance.

"Have you interested the ladies in your vicinity in your cause? If not, would not a little attention to Flora's department accomplish the object? You must be aware, *bachelor as you are* that when women once intercede herself in *any* object, she can render herself an efficient encouragar and helper. Have you mentioned cultivating flowers? could it not be made profitable to the seed Repository? I have become much interested in the subjects you discuss, having all my interests so identified with one well calculated to feed my mind to dwell with pleasure upon whatever engrosses his attention.

"I am enthusiastic about a garden just now, and have supplied myself with quite a variety of roots and seeds, and if you are a beginner in this line of business, I may be able to add somewhat to your stock of nature's bounties which it would give me great pleasure to do If you have a variety of roots, etc, just publish a list, that we Northern ladies may know where to send to supply our private gardens. *My* stock, as well as G.'s, is entirely from the East. Just come and see.

* * * * *

"Yours sincerely, J. R."

Note.—Our friend will excuse the liberty taken of publishing her letter It is the first from a lady's pen at all suited to our columns, and we insert it with the hope that others may be induced to imitate so praise-worthy an example.

In a previous No., we have had occasion to speak of the importance of female influence to the success of any enterprise; and, as yet, we see no occasion for changing that opinion We suppose wives are not *always* as much interested in agricultural subjects as Mrs. R, merely because their husbands are engaged in them, but let a wife dwell upon the importance of agricultural improvement to the West—the glorious results of a few well directed and united efforts made immediately—let her see a means with which to operate, as for instance the U. A. S—let her engage in the cause with all the ardor of a woman—and the interest and aid of her husband would be permanently secured.

The flower seeds and roots expected at the Repository, were not received. Another season we shall hope to obtain a full supply, which will be published.

Mr. J. M. Allan, of McHenry co., writes that the Illinois Cultivator has prevented him obtaining subscribers to the Agriculturist. As that has been removed, and as he and other friends in Henry co have promised them aid, we shall expect much assistance from that growing co How does the Agr Society flourish? If we remember right there was a very promising one in Henry It cannot be it is among the things that were. Has it been made auxiliary to the State Society?

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

JUNE, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

John Dean Caton, of Will Co, President.

Levi Hitts, La Salle " } Vice Pres.
Holder Sisson, Will " }
Lewis Ellsworth, Du Page " }
James T Gifford, Kane " }
Seth Washburn, McHenry " }

Wm B Ogden, Cook " Treasurer.
Jno. S Wright, do " Rec Sec.
Do, do. " Cor Sec.

Unless the friends of the paper now use increased diligence to obtain subscribers and correspondents, the delay in publishing the last three No's, will be a very material injury to it Could we have anticipated the long delay when the difficulty first originated with the printer, a compromise would have been made, even at much greater cost than was demanded But the delay has been prolonged from time to time beyond all calculation: until we fear many a friend who gladly lent his aid in the commencement of the enterprise, has long since concluded that the fate of other agricultural papers in the West, has come upon this, their junior associate successor. Others regret they should have been made such dupes of, as to pay for a paper in advance, of which they knew nothing The first Januect the supposed suspension—not of specie, but of *paper* payment—not so much on account of the loss to ourselves, as to the West in general; having finally hoped the Society would soon be able to make it what the farmers of the West require:—the latter in turn only their individual loss. But we are happy to be able to assure all *positively*, that hereafter the Society will be able to pu ot any "I un" upon it that you may see fit to make; and we are authorised to say, the Directors or Stockholders would not be in the *least* alarmed for the stability of the institution, even if 400 more drafts were made upon it *at once* The other back No's will be got out as fast as possible, and when once more even with the time, the paper will appear regularly on the 1st of the month A word of explanation may be found in a note appended to a communication signed "S."

We cannot forbear expressing our great obligations to our patrons for their forbearance during the delay. There have been some injuries, but very few complaints. Those with whom we have been able to converse have expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the course we have taken; though letters are expressed by all, that the delay will work much injury to the paper. We trust it will prove only temporary.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

The Missouri Farmer.—Mr Gould, who published the Illinois Cultivator at Stephenson, desires us to correct a statement we made relative to the suspension of that paper. It is not suspended, but merely removed to St. Louis and its name changed. We wish Mr G. good success in his new location—all his indefatigable perseverance merits, and more than that he need not desire. The mistake originated through a correspondent, without intention on his part or ours to injure Mr. G.

The N. Y. Mechanic, is a paper which every mechanic, at least, should take; and every other man who is able, and has a taste for scientific art, not to say, the arts and sciences. It is published in New York city weekly, at $1,50 a year. It is ably conducted; and besides the scientific and practical part, has a good spice of the humorous. The first 13 No's. were not received; and as we preserve it, we should be much obliged to Mr Porter if he would send them that our file may be complete. We intend to extract from it drawings and descriptions of agricultural implements, &c.

The Northern Light.—This paper is published monthly at Albany at only $1 per annum, with 16 large pages. It must have a very large circulation to be sustained. It treats of Political Economy, Agriculture, Literature and Science, &c. We commend it to the patronage of our readers.

Magazine of Western History.—John Russell, Esq has issued a prospectus for publishing a Monthly Magazine of Early Western History, 32 octavo pages, at $1.50 a year. The object is a commendable one,—to rescue from oblivion the interesting facts connected with our early history. Many born and reared in the West, now far down the vale of life, are able to furnish facts and descriptions which in a few years would be unusually prized, and R. has extensive resources in a work written by the Jesuit missionaries 100 to 150 years ago, entitled "Lettres Edifiantes et Curieuses," from which he will translate for the Magazine.

Communications should be addressed to Jno. Russell, P. M Bluffdale, Greene co., Ill.

We have so many miscellaneous publications, on our exchange list they cannot all be noticed at this time.

The first Fair and Cattle Show of the U. A. S.—This now promises to be a fair worthy of the West. We have not seen a farmer residing within the district of the Society, who does not say he means to attend, unless something providential occurs to prevent; and we have seen quite a number from a distance, who say they shall be present, among others, Mr. Norton, of Rockford, intends to be there with his *Irish Graziers*; and says if any man takes the first premiums from him in swine, they must show some fine animals. After the fair, we are to have his large boar and sow to keep through the winter.

There is to be, without doubt, a great gathering of fine stock and any man that has a fine animal will do well to be preparing for the exhibition. With regard to the Ladies' Department, we cannot speak so positively, but feel willing to trust to them to see that on their part, justice is done to the cause.

How long the Fair will continue, it is impossible to say, but preparations will be made so that it may last two or three days if necessary There are some items in town which will be obtained for the occasion

Every farmer in the district should make his calculations to devote the week of the Fair, it necessary, to the enjoyment of this meeting, and to aid in building up the Society

Some regret that the ten per cent. should have been required from competitors for a prize, and it would not have been done but for the difficulty of procuring money necessary to defray the expenses of the first fair. In commencing such an institution as the U. A. S., a considerable amount of money is necessarily expended, the burthen of which, as is usual in such cases, falls on a few individuals It was thought best not to throw this expense upon them also; and that those who should present themselves as competitors would not object to pay the small sum that will be required of them Hereafter there will probably be no entrance fee required.

Sheep for the West.—What breeds of sheep are best adapted to the prairies, is a question fast increasing in importance. The thriftiness of sheep on the prairies, is remarked by every observer, and wool growing commends itself to the interest of every farmer —in the first place, because of the home market furnished in the West, and in the next, because of the trifling expense of getting wool to the principal market Compared with wheat, the cost of transportation is but a small per cent. on the value. The expense to New York from this place, is but little more on a hundred pounds of wool, than on a hundred of wheat; but one would be worth three more than thirty dollars, and the other less than two. The per cent. on the value of the wool at this place would be less than four, which would be more than twice covered by the rate of exchange, as it near present between the East and the West; whereas on wheat it would be from 70 to 80; and the further in addition the product has to be transported by land to get it here, the greater still is the disproportion of the cost of transportation; till it costs more to get the wheat to market, then it is worth at the farmer's door

This letter advantage, the wool grower will ever possess; and for many years, the former also.

Another advantage the Western wool-grower possesses, is the low price of his land. He can more easily compete with the Eastern farmer in wool, because of the small cost of transportation, than almost anything else; and for the present, while his flocks can have the unlimited range of the prairies *without expense*, there is no doubt but he can deliver his wool on New York city, at a cost much less than the Eastern farmer. And for many years, the greater interest on land at the East, will more than cover the cost of transportation.

It is then of importance that we judge correctly as to the breeds best adapted to our prairies; that in commencing the wool-growing business, those breeds be introduced which will be the most profitable.

Having conversed with several who consider themselves qualified to judge, we can say it is generally believed, that owing to the warmth of the climate, the fine, short wooled variaties—as the Saxony, Merino, Southdown, etc., will deteriorate unless very great pains are taken. They require a cooler, more mountainous region. It is therefore generally thought, so far as we have been able to ascertain, that it is better to commence with those breeds, naturally bearing a course wool—as the New-Leicester, Catswold, Old Leicester or Lincoln, etc.—all of the long-wool varieties: though with these also there would have to be constant care to prevent deterioration in the quality of the wool. Of the long, coarse-wooled varieties, the Lincolns and Cotswolds yield the best fleeces, while the New-Leicester, Bakewell or Dishley breed, falling a little short in the quantity of the wool, exceed all others in the carcase. Wool, it seems to us, must be the great object. There will for a time, be a market for mutton, but when several farmers in a neighborhood get to raising them thousand sheep, the carcase will be of little value. For this reason we have been strongly prepossessed in favor of the Lincolns and Cotswolds. Which will prove best, experience alone must determine.

Col. Oakley, of Tremont, Tazewell co., has this spring imported from England some genuine Cotswolds, so that ere long it will be known how they will answer for us. He is now again in England, and will doubtless make further purchases, not only to his own profit, but vastly to the benefit of our beloved West.

Our readers will at once see the great importance of this subject; and we hope each one will do what he can in furnishing information. There are many who have had more or less experience; but, except Mr. Elston's communication, there has been nothing very particular upon sheep.

The Meeting at Geneva was by far the most interesting that has yet been held. Had the previous prospects of the U. A. S. been even darker than they were, that meeting would have revived the courage of the most despoding. It showed there was much interest felt by farmers in the success of the U. A. S.—far, far more than it was supposed existed.—Those present came to the conclusion, that it was only necessary for an intelligent farmer to learn the plan, to lead them to enter into the cause with zeal.

Among other things, we were rejoiced to learn, that auxiliaries were to be organised in the counties of Kane and Kendal immediately That is a most important step.

It was most gratifying to see so large a concourse; and judging from this meeting, Kane co will produce a long competitors for the prizes at the coming fair. Quite a number were in attendance also from the other counties; and many ladies honored the meeting with their presence.

A resolution was prepared, though not introduced, promising at the fair, to offer premiums for hedges, the cultivation of the locust, and other forest trees, etc., to be awarded some two or three years hence. It is intended to offer prizes for such objects.

THE GLEANER.

Wisconsin Brooded Animals.—The Milwaukee Sentinel contains a notice of stock belonging to Geo Reed, Esq. He brought into the Territory in 1836, the bull Jupiter, and two heifers, all full blood short horn Durham. Mr. R has bred from them several fine animals; some of which, we believe, he is willing to sell. Jupiter stands the season at Milwaukee.

Mildew on Gooseberries.—Mr. Philbrick, in the Boston Courier, says he has no faith in the use of salt around the roots of gooseberries to prevent mildew, and recommends the following mode of culture, which, for six successive years, he has found an essential to preserving his fruit He attributes mildew to stagnation, or a want of free circulation of sap —

"My method has been to trim up annually, or biennially, a new growth of wood from the roots, as often removing all the old wood that has more than three years' growth, retaining only from one to three shoots from each root, according to its age and power to sustain; and keeping those well pruned and open to the sun, and mowing them annually with a moderate supply of compost, or old manure that has fermented full, by laying in heap one year. I have trained 12 or 14 years growth, with bushes as young and thrifty as any that have grown from slips or cuttings within three years, and am never troubled with mildew, except when I have occasionally left too much wood or too old wood on some roots, which were consequently unable to sustain, while the fruit was ailing, a full and free supply of sap."

Large Forrests.—The Massachusetts Agr Society, offers the following premiums for the best lot of trees cultivated in 1841, containing not less than 70 acres exclusive of wood land—best $200, 2d $150, 3d $100, 4th $75, 5th $50, 6th, $25. For an effectual and easy mode of extirpating the worm that attacks the locust tree, $100, the same of the boter that attacks the apple tree $50, &c. &c.

Milk Sickness.—The vine called Poison Oak (Rhus Toxicodendron,) has been considered by some the cause of milk sickness; but Dr. S D

Martin says, in the Kentucky Farmer, that it grows plentifully in Clarke county, Ky., and that the cattle and calves are in the habit of eating the leaves and small branches, yet no case of milk sickness has ever been known in that county, or in others in the vicinity, where it also abounds; and concludes, therefore, the poison oak has no connexion with the milk-sickness.

A writer in the Louisville Journal thinks he has tested the practice sufficiently to be sure he is correct, and says giving cattle regularly all the salt they will eat, will prevent the disease. It is said salting the meat of cattle that have been affected with milk-sickness, so destroys the poison that it may be eaten with impunity; when, if eaten fresh, it would have caused death. This statement has been confirmed by another gentleman from Indiana.

Some one, (we have forgotten his name,) has written an essay upon this disease, in which he says that having travelled considerably in regions where it prevails, he is satisfied it is caused by arsenic; having found crystals of this poison scattered on the surface of the ground, where the cattle were affected by the disease.

This is a subject of so much importance to us in the West, that we hope the columns of the Union Agriculturist will be freely used to investigate it.

Woburn and Berkshires.—Dr. S. D. Morton, of Kentucy, is bantering every breeder to feed pigs against a breed of his own—a cross of a *white* Berkshire on a Woburn sow. Dr. M. considers white the original colour of the Berkshires; and in a contest with other Southerners as to their color, has been the principal champion for the white. Mr Fanning, one of the editors of the Ten Agr., was induced to compete with the Dr in feeding two (black) Berkshires against two sows of the Dr's. Mr. F. "knocks under"; though he still thinks that, in proportion to the food given, the Berkshire will yield the most meat. He is not satisfied with this trial, and is getting in addition to the Berkshires, China, Woburn and Irish Grazier breeds. He intends to give a thorough trial to this different breeds.

The Dr's. pigs weighed at 6 mos. old 254 and 232 lbs. each.—*pretty fair* for young pigs.

Grafts affected by the Stock.—In the Kentucky Farmer is a communication from Mr. James Allen upon grafting, who advances the opinion, that when two varieties are united, quite different in their nature—as for instance, a gratt of summer apple upon a winter stock, or a sweet upon a sour one—they cannot do well together. He says, only by grafting in the roots, will trees be made to possess the vigor and durability of seedling trees; by which we suppose he means the effect of the stock upon the graft will be destroyed. Not having had much experience in the culture of fruit, we are not well qualified to pass judgment upon this opinion, but we cannot see why grafting above or under ground should make so much difference in the effect. Will those capable of explaining the theory, furnish us with information? On page 15 will be found an article upon this subject which seems reasonable; but we want no explanation of the cause why the effect of the stock is destroyed by being inserted below the surface.

Eastern and Western Pasturage.—"Observo," in the Maine Farmer, mentions over the appearance of 9 yoke of fine large oxen; but which were so miserably poor that *two year* would be necessary to put them in market this order. How many of those Eastern cattle would laugh, could they have the run of our prairies for a few weeks in the spring! The effect would be like "sighing and grief" upon Falstaff; the man setting before a roasted sirloin of such beef, would be easily convinced the cattle were "blown up" with something besides wind.

Mutton and Lard.—A correspondent of the New Haven Farmer's Gazette says, it greatly improves the quality of mutton, to keep the skin from the body as it is taken off. He says a friend of his when butchering, has some one to hold the skin off, as it is removed, and when broiled-tasting with this friend upon lamb skinned in this manner, *the taste* was so much improved he could not tell what he was eating!

Manure Lot.—A correspondent of the Va. Southern Planter gives a few and a *resemble* instance of gambling. A party of young farmers were engaged in an agricultural discussion which was interrupted by one of the number proposing to play a game of loo. An old grayheaded farmer who happened to be present said it had been a long time since he had gambled, but had no objections to take a hand, it afterwards he should be indulged in a game at which he thought he should be more at home. After losing a few dollars he proposed his game should be tried, and it being a new one, said the stakes should be increased. At his request each one put up $20; though with much surprise, knowing his moderate habits. Calling the landlord to him, he deposited in his hands the $140, with instructions to give it to the man who, by the 1st Jan. 1842, should have accumulated the *largest and best pile of manure*.

Such gambling as this would not be injurious even to our prairie farmers. From experience and observation of our own, as well as that of many with whom we have conversed, we are satisfied the value of manure on our *rich* prairies, is not appreciated. Besides imparting strength, which in general we acknowledge to be unnecessary, manuring gives warmth and vitality to the soil, which every one will admit to be very necessary. We have called for statements of experiments, that by *facts* the benefits may be determined, but we regret to say none have yet been received.

Coffee.—The Pittsburgh American says, they are planting coffee upon some of the western prairies—with what prospect of success we do not know.—*New Eng. Far.*

Nor we either; and we know of no experiment of this kind, except with a species of beans used as a substitute. Mr. J. S. Norton, an interesting correspondent at Rockford, had a new plant growing in his garden; and upon inquiry we found it to be a shrub of this character. He says it makes an excellent substitute for coffee; and when properly prepared it would trouble a man to tell it from the genuine.

We shall be happy to comply with the request of the Ten. Agr., and will send a sample of the seed when we can procure some. As yet none has been sent us.

Sheep.—A Mr. Twyman, who is said to be a very successful English farmer, has written a letter to a friend in this city, in which he states, (*Southern Va. Planter.*)

"I have a complete new family of sheep of my own fancy, *perfectly different* from any other in England—as far as I am able to effect it, and that in my own opinion, is nearly in perfection. They combine all the good points of the Leicester and the Down—the wool being a mixture between the two, long as the former, but much finer and closer, like the latter, with dark faces and fine countenances. One hundred tegs which were shorn on the 16th March last, then *thirteen and a half months* old, produced on an average *nine pounds* of wool each; and the two year old ram *fifteen and a quarter pounds*—clean and well washed—all of which may be seen. Nine years impartial trial of this breed emboldens me to declare myself *open to the world*, to match it against any other breed, taking as the criterion of merit, the combination of those rare but grand desiderata, weight and value of fleece, symmetry of carcase, quality of mutton, with aptitude to fatten and arrive at early maturity.

"The one hundred tegge above named were immediately after being shorn, sold at three guineas each, out of their wool, for which two shillings per pound has been refused—calculating the wool at this price, the one hundred tegge, only thirteen and a half months old, have produced four hundred guineas, or four guineas ($20) per head! I seek in vain for a parallel in the present or a record of a similar price in any past age."

Planting Chessots.—The Detroit Farmer gives the following instructions in reply to a correspondent

"Chessnuts are usually ripe in October, and should be kept spread out until the middle of November, when they will become dry. Saw early in the spring. A bushel of good seed is sufficient for a bed 75 feet long and 4 feet wide. The covering should be about two inches in thickness. After one year in a seed bed, transplant them into lines 18 inches apart, and 6 inches distant from each other. When three years old to be planted in the field. It will grow wherever the roots can spread freely; but a rich sandy loam is preferable.

An acre planted 1 feet apart each way, will contain over 2700 trees. Those, in about 18 years, will furnish, probably, 7 rails each, or 19 000 rails, or equal to 1000 a year, which will often be worth $40 a thousand; but say only 30, and deduct even $10 for cutting, it will leave, at the least, a net return of $20 a year for the value of the timber on an acre. Suppose you wish to sell your farm in five years, the timber already growing upon it, would add hundreds of dollars to its value."

Hiving Bees.—Bees sometimes swarm in the fore part of May—we have known good swarms to come out as early as the tenth. They usually start between the hours of ten and twelve, and they generally alight on some bush or tree near the mother hive. It was formerly a custom for one to hold an empty hive under the swarm, while another rapped the limb on which it hung, and while the great body of the bees had fallen into it to turn it right side up and set it on a platform.

But a much better method is to place a platform under the swarm, and set the empty hive right side up, on the platform, raising the hive by means of chips, high enough to let the bees crawl under; then give the limb on which they hang a hard rap and let them drop on to the platform close by the hive. If limb is sweet and dry the bees will go in. No hive should be made wet either with rum, molasses, honey, or any other liquid. The instinct of the bee teaches it to seek a dry habitation, and swarms will very often leave a wet one after they have entered it.—*Boston Cultivator.*

Hydrangea.—It may not be generally known to many of our readers that this flower, which is usually of a pink color, may be made to come out a beautiful rich blue, by the simple means of filling the pot or box with the swamp or bog earth. Common garden loam produces the pink. The discovery of producing the blue was accidentally made by a friend of ours, by whom it was sometime since communicated to us. We have repeated the experiment this season with good success, and now name the fact, that the lovers of variety make take advantage of it. The plant should be shifted very early in the spring.—*Watchtower.*

What Plants are Grasses.—The term *grass*, in our vernacular tongue, is frequently used in a vague sense, to designate every kind of herbage found in our meadows and pastures. Hence, we often hear people speak of clover, lucerne, and other plants which have no botanical affinity with the *true* grasses, as though they really belonged in that remarkable tribe of vegetables. But such is not the language of naturalists, and ought not to be, at any well informed person. An accurate knowledge of objects can neither be acquired nor communicated, without precision in the use of terms. The distinctive characters of that family of plants of which we propose to treat, are now well understood, and have been satisfactorily defined.

Whenever we meet with a plant having a cylindrical, jointed stem, with the joints solid, and the intervening portions hollow, or, in a few instances, filled with a pith-like substance,—the leaves alternate, one originating at each joint, embracing the stem with its base, and forming a sheath which is slit one side down in its origin,—and the flowers protected by those peculiar envelopes, known by the name of chaff,—we may take it for granted that we have before us a *true* grass.—*Dr. Darlington.*

Hops, *Continued from page* 39. After publishing instructions for the planting and raising of hops to the gathering, we received a communication from Mr. Wm. B. West, of Blackberry, Kane Co., upon the same subject: but it being received too late to be of benefit this year, we concluded to keep it on hand till next winter. Mr. W. said he would send instructions for the entire process of harvesting, drying and bagging; but no subsequent communication having been received from him, we continue our extracts from the Complete Farmer. Original instructions from farmers among us, are much to be preferred to foreign extracts: and, we hope to be saved from making them in future.

"As soon as the hops are ripe, which is about the beginning of September, they must be immediately gathered, or the crop is lost. The quality of the hop depends considerably on their being picked clean from leaves and stems. The labor of picking or gathering the hops may be well performed by women and children, having one man to o bin to handle the poles and to inspect the pickers. The bin is a wooden box, about nine feet long, three feet wide, and two and a half feet high, made of thin pine boards, that it may be easily moved over the yard, across which the poles are laid, and into which the hops are picked by hand. Care should be taken, when gathering the hops, to cut the vines two feet from the ground, that the roots may not be injured by bleeding.

"The most important part in the management of hops is the curing or drying them. Here I would note, that hops always grow first sort, and that all second sort and refuse hops are made so by unfortunate or unskilful management.

"Much depends on having a well-constructed kiln. For the convenience of putting the hops on the kiln, the side of a hill is generally chosen for its situation. Care should be taken that it be a dry situation. The kiln should be dug out the same bigness at the bottom as at the top; the side walls laid up perpendicularly, and filled in solid with stone, to give it a tunnel form. Twelve feet square at the top, two feet square at the bottom, and at least eight feet deep, is deemed a convenient size. On the top of the walls sills are laid, having joists let into them in like manner as for laying a floor; on which laths, about one and a half inches wide, are nailed, leaving open spaces between them three-fourths of an inch, over which a thin linen cloth is spread and nailed at the edges to the sills. A board about twelve inches wide is set up on each side of the kiln, on the inner edge of the sill, to form a bin to receive the hops. The larger the stones made use of in the construction of the kiln, the better; as it will give a more steady and dense heat. The inside of the kiln should be well plastered with mortar to make it completely air-tight. Charcoal (that made from yellow birch or maple I should prefer) is the only fuel proper to be used in drying hops. The kiln should be well heated before any hops are put on, and carefully attended, to keep a steady and regular heat.

"Fifty pounds of hops, when dried, is the largest quantity that should be dried at one time, on a kiln of this size: and unless absolutely necessary to put on that quantity, a less would dry better. The green hops should be spread as evenly and as light as possible over the kiln. The fire at first should be moderate, but it may be increased as the hops dry, and the steam is evaporated.

"Hops should not remain long in the bin or bag after they are picked, as they will very soon heat and become injured. The hops should not be smoked on the kiln until they are completely and fully dried. Then they should be removed from the kiln into a dry room, and laid in a heap, and there remain, unmoved and undisturbed, until bagged, which is done with a screw, having a box made of plank, the size the bag is wished, into which the cloth is laid, and the hops screwed into the box, which is so constructed that the sides may be removed, and the bag sewed together while in the press.

"The hops, after laying a few days, will gather a partial moisture, called a sweat. The sweat will probably begin to subside in about eight days, at which time, and before the sweat is off, they ought to be bagged in clear dry weather. As the exact time when the hops will begin to sweat, and when the sweat will begin to subside or dry off, (the proper time to bag them,) will vary with the state of the atmosphere, it will be necessary to examine the hops from day to day, which is easily done by taking some of them from the centre of the heap with your hand. If, on examination, you find the hops to be very damp, and their color altering, which will be the case if they were not completely dried on the kiln, and not otherwise, you must overhaul them and dry them in the air.

"The most convenient size for a bag of hops, to handle and transport, is about five feet in length, and to contain about two hundred and fifty pounds. The best bagging is coarse, strong tow cloth, of our domestic manufacturing, next to that, Russia hemp bagging. The East India sugar and gunny bags, so called, ought never to be used. The sugar bags are of an unreasonable width, and both they and the gunny bags are of no value to the brewer, whereas the other bags are worth prime cost.

"It is now common for those who have entered considerably into the cultivation of hops, to build houses over their kilns, which, in wet weather, are very convenient; otherwise, a kiln in the open air would be preferable. It is necessary to have these buildings well ventilated with doors and windows, and to have them kept open night and day, except in wet weather, and then shut those only which are necessary to keep out the rain. If a ventilator was put in the roof of the building, directly over the centre of the kiln, about six feet square, built like those in breweries and distilleries, they would be found very advantageous. I have seen many lots of hops much injured both in color and flavor by being dried in close buildings.

"Where the houses over the kilns are built large, for the purpose of storing the hops as they are dried, which is a great saving of labor, a close partition should be made between the kilns, and the room in which the hops are stored, to prevent the damp steam from the kilns coming to them, as it will color them, and injure their flavor and quality very much."

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

For the Union Agriculturist.

Preserving Meat by Injection.—I have selected for your paper from the Scottish Guardian the following "Scientific Discovery:" perhaps some will repeat the experiment and report the result:—"At the last meeting of the Academy of Sciences, M. Gannal presented an important essay, which is likely to produce a considerable sensation amongst the public as well as in the scientific world. M. Gannal has been for many years occupied with the idea of preserving meat by injection. Thus 4 lbs. weight of saline mixture injected into the carotid artery of an ox, penetrates all the vessels and prevents a putrid decomposition. M. Gannal exhibits legs of mutton preserved two years since by this plan, and which were found to be perfectly sweet. M. Gannal employs for this purpose the muriate of alum. This discovery is considered as valuable in preserving provisions for the navy."—April 2, 1841. John Thomas.

Oil for Lamps.—The following recipe, taken from the N. C. Farmers' Advocate, is inserted for the benefit of those who are able to procure castor oil at a low price. The preparation should be used with great care, for it is as inflammable as gunpowder; and explosions often occur by bringing a flame so near as to ignite the gas. The wick should be conveyed through long tubes; and in *no instance* should a lamp be filled while lighted:

"We see it stated,—that a mixture of four parts of the oil of Palmæ Christi or castor oil bean, and one part of spirits of turpentine, forms a substance equal, if not superior, to the best sperm oil, for lamps; that in burning, no appearance of crust accumulates on the wick, and when the flame is extinguished no fire remains;—that it burns perfectly free from smoke or the least degree of offensive smell,—emits a clear and powerful light, and never congeals in the coldest weather."

To prepare Rennets.—When taken from the calf, empty and rinse them in cold water, and fill them with salt, then pack them away in a jar and cover them well with salt. To prepare them for use, I take two or three of them and put them into an earthen vessel that will hold about two gallons, and fill it up with sweet whey. After they have soaked for about twenty four hours the liquor is fit for use—always remembering to keep it very salt. As the liquor is used out, it should be replenished with sweet whey. When the liquor becomes so weak as to require three times the quantity used at first, I throw away the old rennets, and replenish the jar with new ones. As to the quantity to be used, the time which it takes to coagulate the milk, should be the criterion. From fifty minutes to one hour, is about the right time. If it congulates sooner than that, too much rennet is used, and it will make the cheese strong. If milk is the least changed before it is set for cheese, less scalding is necessary. If scalded too much, the cheese is apt to crack.—*Selected.*

To preserve Hams from Flies.—For a score of hams, take about three quarts of salt, one pint of molasses, ¼lb of a pound of black pepper, and two ounces of saltpetre pulverised; mix well together; lay the hams on a table with the rind downwards: rub the mixture over them with the hand, taking care to apply it to every part where there is no rind; let them lay a week, and rub them over with clear salt, which continue once a week for four or six weeks, according to the size of the hams, and they are ready to smoke; or if you choose after the mixture is sufficiently struck in, put them into brine for two or three weeks and smoke; when smoked, hang them in a dry place. We hang ours in the garret where they will keep all summer, secure from flies. When a ham is cut for use, hang it or lay it where you please, the flies will not touch it. We have practised this method for several years, and have no reason to abandon it.—*Albany Cultivator.*

Our mother preserves hams, &c. from flies, bugs, &c. by simply dusting every part except the rind, with finely pulverised black pepper.

Making Cheese.—The following "improved method of making cheese is from the Portland Transcript. We shall only say in addition to the remarks thereon offered, that the progress as described by the writer, has been repeatedly tried in this vicinity, with flattering success. Cheese made in this way, possesses many and important advantages, we think, over that made in the common tub and press; inasmuch as it is less liable to become rancid, from the more perfect expulsion of the whey, and to be injured extremely by the depredations of flies or mice.—*Van. Far.*

New Method of Making Cheese.—We have lately seen a method of making cheese, which is worthy of being tested by experiment on the scale of the year, especially by those who have but a small quantity of milk. It is very simple, and easily tried. The milk is set in the ordinary way every morning, and the curd separated from the whey as well as can be with the hands. It is then pressed compactly into the bottom of an earthen pot, and covered over with several folds of dry linen, or cotton cloth. By this process the remaining whey is absorbed, and when the cloth becomes saturated it is removed and a dry one placed in its

stead. In the course of the day and night this process removes the whey as thoroughly as it can be done by pressing. The next morning the milk is prepared in the same manner, and the curd packed closely upon the top of that prepared the day previous, and the same method pursued in separating the moisture. The process is repeated till you have a *cream pot full of cheese*. It is thus seen to be a convenient mode where the dairy women has the milk of but one or two cows. If it work well, it is an important discovery. If it fail, it need not be a very disastrous failure. It is a very successful way of preserving the cheese from flies and mice, as it can be perfectly enclosed and kept from such gentry, and from the air and light. We have seen but one experiment of this kind and think the promises to be a successful one. The cheese appeared as free from moisture, and as solid as that made by the process.—The labor is much less, and the care of it afterwards is comparatively nothing.

ECONOMY IN CANDLES.—If you are without a rush light, and would burn a candle all night, unless you use the following precaution, it is ten to one an ordinary candle will gutter away in an hour or two, sometimes to the endangering the safety of the house. This may be avoided by placing as much common salt, finely powdered, as will result from the tallow in the bottom of the black part of the wick of a partly burnt candle, when, if the same be lit, it will burn very slowly, yielding sufficient light for a bedchamber; the salt will gradually sink as the tallow is consumed, the melted tallow being drawn through the salt, and consumed in the wick —*Economist.*

FORM OF A CONSTITUTION FOR SOCIETIES AUXILIARY TO THE U.A.S.

ART. I. This Society shall be called the County Agricultural Society, auxiliary to the Union Agricultural Society.

ART. 2. The object of this Society, shall be to promote agricultural improvement in this county, and within the district of the parent Society, particularly by building up the U. A. S; and the members hereby pledge themselves to aid the U. A. S., in every way in their power.

ART 3. Any person residing within this Co., who is a member of the U. A. S,* may become a member of this Society, by signing the constitution and paying the sum of one dollar †

ART. 4. The officers of this Society shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, holding their offices till others are elected in their places, and shall be a president, a vice-president from each precinct, a corresponding secretary, a recording secretary, and a treasurer. Vacancies may be filled at any regularly called meeting.

ART. 5. The duties of the president shall be to preside at all meetings of the Society; and in case of a tie, he shall give a casting vote: In the absence of the president, one of the vice-presidents shall take the chair; and they shall see that meetings are held in their precincts, and the necessary means used to further the interests of the Society. The corresponding secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, communicating such parts for publication to the Union Agriculturist as may be deemed interesting—he shall procure statements, correct as may be practicable, of the productions of the county, and shall report at least once a year to the recording secretary; and also to the corresponding secretary of the U A S., by the 10th of October in each year, or previous to the annual meeting of the U. A. S.. The recording secretary shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Society and of the Board of Managers, and of any matter of importance; and shall prepare an annual report to the Society, and also to the U. A. S., of its condition, wants and prospects, and shall keep a list of the names of the members and their post office address, and shall see the necessary notices are given of the meetings of the Society: The treasurer, shall take charge of the funds of the Society, making disbursements upon the order of the president, countersigned by the recording secretary—he shall report to the Society annually, and whenever a report may be necessary, or whenever one shall be required.

ART 6. The president, vice-president, recording and corresponding secretaries, and the treasurer, shall constitute a board of managers, and may direct and manage all business, subject to the revision of the Society. Four officers present shall constitute a quorum.‡ The board shall keep a full record of their proceedings, which, together with all other books and papers, shall be ever open to the inspection of any member

ART. 7. The annual meeting shall be held on the ——— at such place as the Society or Board of Managers shall direct; § though at the annual meeting of the parent Society shall be held in this county, the annual meeting of this Society shall be held at the same time and place. Intermediate meetings, either of the Society or of the Board of Managers, may be appointed by the president and recording secretary; the secretary giving not less than ten days notice thereof, either in the Union Agriculturist, or by not less than ten handbills put up in public places in different parts of the county. Any meeting of the Society, of which such notice shall be given, shall be considered a regularly called meeting, and seven members present shall constitute a quorum

ART. 8. A cattle show and fair may be held at the annual meeting, to be governed in such a manner, as shall be provided in the by laws.

ART. 9. Assessments, not exceeding ——— dollars per annum, may be made by the by-laws of the Society or by resolutions; and any one refusing to pay such assessments, shall be no longer a member of this Society.

ART. 10. By-laws shall be adopted for the government of the Society, which, together, with this constitution, may be altered by a majority of the members present, at any regularly called meeting.

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* We hope this provision will not be stricken out. Retaining it, will certainly give increased interest to the U. A. S, which seems to us a very important consideration. If the Society first organised adopt it, others will be very like to do the same.

† This sum will probably be sufficient for the initiation fee, as other assessments may be made when they shall be required.

‡ Then in case of disagreement, three would be necessary to carry a question, and probably prevent the adoption of any measures that would be condemned by the members generally.

§ It would be well for the Society first organized, to appoint its meeting a week before that of the parent Society, to wit on the 2nd Monday in October; tho Society next organised, three or four days or a week previous to that; and so on, through all the counties. This would give the officers of the U. A. S., and others who would feel a sufficient interest in the cause, an opportunity to attend the meetings of all the Auxiliary Societies.

The above form we have not had time to prepare with as much care as would have been desirable; but the principal part of the necessary regulations will probably be found embodied, and when alterations and additions might be thought to be improvements, we trust the secretary of the Society will communicate them, that there may be entire uniformity in the organization of the auxiliaries.

USEFUL RECIPES.

For the Union Agriculturist.

BOTS IN HORSES, apply spirits of turpentine to the hollow of the breast—warm it in with a hot shovel, it will route them immediately.

FOR CHOLIC, put into a bottle three gills of spirits, say whiskey; 1 spoonful gun-powder; 1 spoonful cayenne pepper or 2 of black—add if convenient a wild turnip grated; turn it down, and move him lively. If it is an obstinate case, repeat the dose, and he is well in either wind, bloat or gripe cholic in short metre.

TO CURE FOUNDER, turn a large tea kettle full of boiling water into the bottom of the foot, by a small steam, holding the hoof up. Then turn as much spirits of turpentine as will sink into the frog. Next morning no one could tell he had ever been foundered.

THE WORMS.—When a horse loses his appetite, and his coat looks bad, he probably has worms. Give one ounce of fine aloes in a half pint of whiskey. Miss one day, and give half the quantity, and he will eat like an Indian.

TO CURE THE HORN DISTEMPER IN CATTLE.—2 spoonsful white hen dung; 2 of tar; 2 of soot; 2 of pepper; 2 of spies; 2 of ginger, 2 of salt, white of 2 eggs; 5 spoonsful meal mixed with soft soap, made into three balls, give one every other day. Bad cases may require repeating. They will soon eat all before them.

An ounce of preventive is worth a pound of cure. I never had one have the disease: good keeping and care will prevent it. It begins in the tail. When the hair twists on the tail, and gets soft and spongy, cut off the end and let it bleed a little, and it will commonly prevent the disease.

OVERFLOW OF THE GALL may be prevented and cured by giving them soot and salt freely. I give it frequently to all my cattle. It will make them hearty as wolves.

The above recipes, furnished by Mr. J. I. Crandal, of La Porte, In., he says he has found highly useful. Let others having experience follow his excellent example.

TICKS ON SHEEP.—An ointment made of gunpowder and sulphur, equal parts, mixed with lard and applied behind the necks of lambs and sheep newly shorn, will tend to rid them of all kinds of vermin. Ten cents worth may be sufficient for one hundred sheep.—*N. H. Far. Gaz.*

WARTS, CORNS, ETC.—Our exchange papers say, the bark of a willow tree burnt to ashes, and mixed with strong vinegar, will remove warts, corns etc.

BLIND STAGGERS.—A correspondent of the Maine Farmer, gives an account of his curing some pigs of the above by a regular course of steam-doctoring—using lobelia, cayenne, hot bricks, etc. Now this trouble is altogether unnecessary. Thorough purging with sulphur, when the hog is first attacked, will cure him. This we know from our own experience with a Berkshire sow, and several who have tested the remedy, say, that if the disease be considerably advanced, cutting a slit transverse ly across the cud in the forehead, two or three inches in length; then raising the skin and crowding in fine salt, will effect a cure even in a desperate case.

RYE ART.—A writer from Upper Canada, in the New Genesee Farmer, says he believes it is an opinion well established, that ergot of rye, or *secale cornutum*, has given rise to gangrene in the human species; and hoof oil being the usual term for gangrene in animals, he thinks the disease is caused by ergot, rather than by animals loosing their feet. He says ergot may be found in large quantities in June or about grass, which he considers nearly similar to that found in rye.

Upon referring to a treatise by W. B. Dodge, M. D., of Trenton, N. Y., upon gangrene or hoof oil in cattle, we find he agrees with this writer, that ergot causes it, and that it never results from frost. The cure, which the writer in the New Gen. Far. says he has found effectual, is to change the food and cut off the points of the hoof, so that the animal will feed freely. Dr. Dodge's remedy will be given in the next No.

CURE FOR MILDEW.—Thos. Forsyth, of Chatham, Canada, gives the following receipe, in the N Gen. Farmer, for the cure of mildew, which, he says, in nine cases out of ten, has proved successful. The person from whom he obtained it has cured a great many cattle in his vicinity, for which he charged $1 per head, and asked $10 for the recipe.

RECIPE:—Give 11 oz. pearlash, dissolved in 2 quarts of iron-water, (from blacksmith's trough.) If not better in five hours, give half an ounce more in one quart water. The water should be warm. Give no drink but warm water, for two days. Give warm mash to eat

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HEMP.—*Continued from page 33.*—"It is generally ripe and ready to be gathered about the middle of August, varying according to the time of sowing. Some saw at different periods, in order that the crop may not all ripen at the same time, and that a press of labor in rearing it may be thus avoided. The maturity of the plant is determined by the evaporation of the farina, already noticed, and the leaves of the plant exhibiting a yellowish hue: it is then generally supposed to be ripe, but it is safest to wait a few days longer. Very little attentive observation will enable any one to judge when it is fully ripe. In that respect it is a very accommodating crop, for if gathered a little too soon, the lint is not materially injured, and it will wait the leisure of the farmer some ten days or a fortnight after it is entirely ripe.

"Two modes of gathering the plants are practised, one by pulling them up by the roots, an easy operation with an able bodied man, and the other by cutting them about two inches (the nearer the better) above the surface of the ground. From a quarter to a third of an acre is the common task of an average laborer, whether the one or the other mode is practised. The objections to pulling are, that the plants with their roots remaining connected with them, are not afterwards so easily handled in the several operations which they must undergo; that all parts of the plant do not rot equally and alike, when exposed to the dew and rain; and, finally, that before you put them to the brake, when the root should be separated from the stalk, the root drags off with it some of the lint. The objection to cutting is, that you lose two or three inches of the best part of the plant nearest the root. Pulling, being the most ancient method, is most generally practised, I prefer, upon the whole, cutting; and I believe the number who prefer it is yearly increasing. When pulled, it is done with the hand, which is better for the protection of an old leather glove. The laborer catches twenty or thirty plants together, with both hands, and by a sudden jerk draws them without much difficulty. The operation of cutting is performed with a knife, often made out of an old scythe, resembling a sickle, though not so long but broader. This knife is applied much in the same way as the sickle, except that the laborer stoops more.

"Whether pulled or cut, the plants are carefully laid on the ground, the evener the better, to cure; which they do in two or three days, in dry weather. A light rain falling on them whilst lying down is thought by some to be beneficial, inasmuch as the leaves, of which they should be deprived, may be easier shaken off or detached. When cured, the plants are set up in the field in which they were produced, in shocks of convenient size, the roots or butt ends resting on the ground, and the tops united above by a band made of the plants themselves. Previous to putting them up in shocks most cultivators tie the plants in small hand bundles of such a size as that each can be conveniently held in one hand. Before the shocks are formed, the leaves of the plants should be rapidly knocked off with a rough paddle or hooked stick. Some suffer the plants to remain in these shocks until the plants are spread down to be rotted. Others, again, collect the shocks together as soon as they can command leisure, (and it is clearly the best,) and form them into stacks. A few farmers permit these stacks to remain over a whole year, before the plants are exposed to be rotted. By remaining that period in stalks, the plants go through a sweat, or some other process, that improves very much the appearance, and, I believe, the quality of the lint, and this improvement fully compensates the loss of time in bringing it to market. The lint has a soft texture and a lively hue, resembling water-rotted hemp; and I once sold a box of it in the Baltimore market at the price of Russia hemp. In every other respect, the plants are treated as if they were not kept over a year."

(To be continued.)

MR. LINCOLN'S AYRSHIRE CATTLE.—GOV. REYNOLDS has sent us a paper containing correspondence between himself and Gov Lincoln of Massachusetts, relative to the Ayrshire stock, noticed by us on page 6. The pedegrees might not be considered very important; but Gov. L.'s letter we insert with pleasure.

The Ayrshire is a much more hardy race than the Durham, and on this account seems to be a breed better adapted to the West to the present. The latter require warm stabling in winter, and the most careful attention; neither of which is easily furnished by farmers in a new country.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 1841.

SIR—Having mentioned to you, incidentally, in conversation, the scoring, that I had, at great trouble and cost, sent out to my son, Col. Wm. S. Lincoln, at Alton, some cattle of the imported improved races, you were pleased to express a desire to be furnished with a copy of the *pedigrees* of the animals from which this stock was derived; and I have great pleasure in furnishing it herewith:

The animals sent by me to my son, are a cow nine years old; a heifer two years old, last May; and a bull calf, now about nine months old — They were bred by me, on my farm in Massachusetts, and may be relied upon for the genuineness of their character and blood.

The Cow, mostly white, now heavy with calf, is a full blood of the pure race of the "improved short horns," descended from the imported Durham Bull "Denton," sent to this country by the late eminent American banker, to London, Samuel Williams, Esq "Denton" was confessedly one of the finest specimens of this race ever brought into the United States. From him proceeded much of the famous stock of Mr. Powell of Philadelphia.

The Heifer, of a handsome *dark red*, with some *white* spots, is of the same race of "Short Horns," but with some of the blood of "Gerlobs" and "Admiral" two bulls *imported* into Massachusetts, at different times, and with which I mixed the stock of "Denton," to counteract the deteriorating influence of "breeding in and in" The immediate sire of the heifer was a full blooded Ayrshire bull, imported at high cost by "The Massachusetts Society for the promotion of Agriculture," about three years since, with special reference to the still further improvement of the *Dairy* stock of the country. Her dam a full blooded Durham

The Bull Calf is a beautiful *deep red*, from the Heifer, by a bull of the cross of the Ayrshire on the Durham.

These cattle were in fine condition when they left Massachusetts, in October last; but I understand that the Cow and Heifer suffered severely from an unusually long and severe passage to New Orleans from Boston and up the Mississippi. They are now, however, rapidly recruiting. The Calf, having its dam for a nurse on the voyage, got out in good order.

It is my intention to forward to my son extracts from the reports of numerous committees of Agricultural societies, in relation to the character and value of this stock, with accounts of the qualities and productiveness of many individual *prize* animals of the race. It is now more than *twenty* years since it was introduced into Massachusetts, by the importation of "Denton," and it continues, to this day, to be appreciated as the highest boon which has been conferred upon the husbandry of our agricultural community. The Durham stock must be peculiarly suited to the rich and strong pasturage of the *Western prairies*. They are of great weight, early maturity, and much propensity to take on fat. The Ayrshire, which are also "Short Horns," are of lighter frame, but excel in milking qualities, and for the purposes of the dairy I confidently trust that the stock I have sent will be an acceptable means of benefiting the great farming interest of the West; an interest with which I have ever truly felt, from education and practical observation, the most faithful sympathy.

With great respect, I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant.

LEVI LINCOLN.

Hon. JOHN REYNOLDS.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Their Officers, Doings, &c.

LAPORTE SOCIETY.—At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the Laporte Agricultural Society, on the 3d inst., (present the officers of the Society, together with a number of the managers from the several townships,) it was resolved to offer the following premiums at the next annual Fair, to be held at Laporte, on the 14th and 15th days of October next, to wit.—

For the best Stallion, blood and quality considered, in the judgment of the committee, $10 00

Second best, 4 vols. of the Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00

Best 3 year old Colt, 3 00

Second best, 1 vol of the Union Agriculturist, printed at Chicago. 1 00

Best Colt, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00

Best Brood Mare, 4 vols. of the Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00

Second best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00

Best Saddle Horse, 4 vols. of the Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00

Second best, 1 vol Union Agriculturist, 1 00

Best Draught Horse, 4 vols. Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00

Second best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00

Best bloodtail Bull, 6 00

Second best, 4 vols. of the Cultivator bound in one. 4 00

Best Ball Calf, 4 00

Second best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00

Best Cow, blood considered, 5 00

Second best 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00

Best Milch Cow 4 00

Second best, 1 vol. Union Agricul urist, 1 00

Best yoke of Oxen, 4 vols. Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00

Second best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00

Best fat Ox, 5 00

Second best, 1 vol Union Agriculturist, 1 00

Best Ram, approved breed. 4 00

Second best, 1 vol Union Agricultural, 1 00

Best flock of Sheep, ten or more, 5 00

Second best, 1 vol Union Agriculturist, 1 00

Best Boar, approved breed 5 00

Second best, 4 vols. of the Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00

Third best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00

Best Sow, with 5 to 8 Pigs, 5 00

Second best, 4 vols. of the Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00
Third best, 1 vol. Ulinn Agriculturist, 1 00
Best fat hog, 5 00
Second best, 4 vols. of the Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00
Third best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00
Best ten yards Fulled Cloth, 5 00
Second best, 6 German Silver tea spoons.
Best ten yards of Jeans, 5 00
Second best, 6 German silver tea spoons.
Best ten yards Linen Cloth, one Britannia Teapot.
Second best, 6 German Silver tea spoons.
Best pair Woollen Socks, 1 00
Second best, one Cookery Book,
Best farm, 8 00
Second best, 4 vols. of the Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00
Third best, 4 vols. of the Cultivator, bound in one 4 00
Best Acre of Corn, 5 00
Second best, 3 00
Third best, 2 00
Best Acre of Winter Wheat, 5 00
Second best, 3 00
Third best, 2 00
Best Acre of Oats. 3 00
Second best. 2 00
Third best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00
Best Acre of Barley, 2 00
Second best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00
Best Acre of Peas 2 00
Second best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00
Best half-acre of Beans, 4 vols. of the Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00
Second best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00
Best half-acre of Potatoes, 4 vols. of the Cultivator. bound in one, 4 00
Second best, 1 vol Union Agricolturist, 1 00
Best half-acre of Rutabaga, 4 vols. of the Cultivator, bound in one, 4 00
Second best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00
Best Oak Basket, 1 50
Second best, 75
Best Cheese, over 15 lbs 2 00
Second best, 1 50
Third best, 1 00
Best 6 lbs. of butter, 3 00
Second best, 2 00
Third best, 1 00
Best 100 lb of Tobacco 5 00
Second best, 3 00
Third best, 1 00
Best two-horse Threshing Machine, 10 00
Second best of any description. 5 00
Best half acre ploughed at the Fair Plough-ing Match. 5 00
Second best, 1 vol. Union Agriculturist, 1 00
Best Fanning Mill, 4 00
Every Wolf killed, 50

Premiums will be awarded, at the discretion of the Committee, for all improvements in Agricultural implements, as well as other improvements in Mechanic Arts. No premium will be awarded where there is no competition or no merit but at the discretion of the Committee.

The Society will meet at the Court House, on the 3d day of July next, at 10 o'clock, A.M. for the appointment of Committees, and other business

On motion it was

Resolved, That the proceedings be published in the County papers, and Union Agriculturist in Chicago.

JOHN I. CHANDAL, Sec.

MEETING OF THE U. A. S. AT GENEVA.—At two o'clock, P. M., according to appointment, the Society was called to order by the President, J. D. Caton. After the minutes of the last meeting were read, J. T. Gifford addressed the Society in a very happy manner.

On motion of J. J. Wagner, the thanks of the Society were tendered Mr. Gifford for his interesting practical address. A copy was not requested for publication, as we presume, because it was extemporaneous But if Mr. G. would furnish parts of it, if he cannot the whole, in communications to the paper, we shall be most happy to publish them: for it contained many most excellent and practical ideas that would be of benefit to every Western farmer.

On motion of Major Davis, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society are due, and most cheerfully awarded, to the Agricultural Society of Laporte co., In., for the flattering notice they have taken of the Union Agriculturist, in offering so many copies of it as premiums to be awarded at their coming fair, and for the liberal aid rendered it, and that so far as may be consistent, other Western Societies be respectfully requested to pursue the same liberal policy.

On motion of Wm. B. West,

Resolved, That the citizens of Kane co. deem the Union Agricultural Society highly important to our interests as farmers; as the principles are the cultivation of practice as well as theory.

On motion of P. Y. Bliss,

Resolved, That the Illinois State Agricultural Society, in adopting the Union Agriculturist as its organ merits our thanks, and that no exertions shall be spared by the Society and the individual members, to render the paper worthy of the distinguished honor.

That we consider the State Society an institution of great importance; as by the organization of county auxiliary societies throughout the State, a union of strength will be secured, which will rapidly advance the agricultural interests.

(Whenever an amendment can be procured to the charter of the U. A. S., it will be made auxiliary to the State Society.)

On motion of A. Churchill,

Resolved, That it is the duty of Western farmers to sustain a Western agricultural paper: not only for the purpose of advancing their farming operations, but to give their families such reading matter as they can understand, and in which they will take a deep interest, thereby conducing to their improvement.

On motion of Jno. S. Wright,

Resolved, That we view with deep interest, the result of the exertions of those engaged in procuring the organization of a National American Society of Agriculture, and that we will assist in the enterprise by every means in our power.

On motion of P. Y. Bliss,

Resolved, That we rejoice in the efficient and afforded the U. A. S. by Western farmers, in its endeavors to advance the cause of agriculture by establishing a Western paper; and that the improvement of the paper shall be proportionate to the moneys and communications received.

That the Western press generally, by their frequent friendly notices of the paper, have rendered us an essential service; for which they will reap an abundant reward in the consciousness of promoting so important a cause as that of agriculture.

On motion of W. B. West,

Resolved. That we deem it expedient to organise a Society in the county of Kane, auxiliary to the U. A. S; and that we recommend to our fellow citizens, to unite with us in cordial co-operation to effect this object.

Subscriptions were then received to the Capitol Stock.

The committee on fairs not being present, A. P. Hubbard, from that Committee, moved that the following premiums be offered at the fair to be held on Wednesday the 20th October next.

For the best Stallion, blood and quality considered, a silver cup worth $10, 2d best, one copy of the Union Agriculturist and an engraved diploma; 3d and 4th, a diploma each.

Best Brood mare, a copy of the Complete Farmer and the Union Agriculturist; 2d, Union Agriculturist and diploma: 3d and 4th, diplomas.

Best Colt, under one year old, Union Agriculturist and diploma; 2d and 3d, diplomas.

Best Bull, blood and quality considered, a silver cup $7: 2d, Complete Farmer and Union Agriculturist; 3d and 4th, diplomas.

Best Cow, over three years old, blood and quality considered, a silver cup $7, 2d, the Union Agriculturist and the Complete Farmer; 3d and 4th, diplomas.

Best Calf, under one year old, blood and quality considered, 1 vol. Farmer's Cabinet, published at Philadelphia. 2d and 3d, diplomas.

Best common Bull, the Complete Farmer and Union Agriculturist, 2d, Union Agriculturist and diploma, 3d and 4th, diplomas.

Best common Cow, Complete Farmer and Union Agriculturist; 2d Union Agriculturist and diploma; 3d and 4th, diplomas

Best blooded Buck, a silver medal $5: 2d, Union Agriculturist and Complete Farmer, 3d and 4th, diplomas

Best common Buck, Union Agriculturist, 2nd and 3d, diplomas

Best Ewe, not less than five, a silver medal $5; 2d, Complete Farmer and Union Agriculturist; 3d and 4th, diplomas.

Best blooded Boar, a silver medal $3; 2d, Farmer's Cabinet and Union Agriculturist, 3d and 4th, diplomas.

Best blooded Sow, a silver medal $3, 2d, Farmer's Cabinet and Union Agriculturist; 3d and 4th diplomas.

Best yoke of Working Cattle, a silver medal $5, 2d, Union Agriculturist; 3d and 4th, diplomas.

Best specimen of Domestic Cloth not less than 10 yards, a silver medal $4. 2d, a vol Journal American Silk Society; 3d, Union Agriculturist and diploma; 4th, a diploma.

Greatest number of pounds of Domestic Silk, made within a year, a silver medal $3.

Best specimen of Butter, 25 lbs. or over, a silver butter-knife.

Best specimen of Cheese, 30 lbs. or over, a silver spoon $2.

Best specimen of Best Sugar, 10 lbs. or over, a silver medal $3.

Upon motion of James T. Gifford, it was determined the fair should be held at Naperville.

A motion was introduced requiring each competitor to pay in fifty cents, previous to entering his article; but after a little discussion, it was amended, so that each competitor is required to pay to the treasurer, 10 per cent. of the value of the highest prize for which he intends contending, 10 days previous to the fair.

A letter was received during the meeting, from P. W. Dentz resigning his appointment as a member of the Committee on Fairs, for this year; it being impossible for him to give it the necessary attention. The resignation was accepted, and on motion of T. P. Whipple, John Hill, of Cook co., was appointed in his place.

KENDALL CO. SOCIETY.—At a meeting of the citizens of Kendall county, held at Yorkville on Monday the 7th June, 1841, Levi Hills, Esqr. was called to the chair, and Levi F. Arnold, chosen secretary

The object of the meeting being explained by Royal Bullard, Esq. on the propriety of forming a county Agricultural Society, auxiliary to the "Union Agricultural Society."

On motion of Maj. Wm. N. Davis a committee of three were appointed to prepare a constitution, to be adopted at the next regular session of the County Commissioners Court of Kendall county, to be holden on the first Monday of Sept next; also to open a correspondence with Jno. S. Wright, Esq and other leading men of the "Union Agricultural Society."

Moved, That Wm. N. Davis, Royal Bullard and Levi Hills, Esqrs., be appointed on said committee.

Moved by L. Bristol, That the editors of the Chicago papers, and the editor of the Ottawa Free Trader, be requested to publish the above.

Moved that this meeting adjourn.

LEVI HILLS, Chm'n.

L. F. ARNOLD Sec.

☞ Papers please copy.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr. Troesdell will send us another communication upon the silk culture, we suppose, in season for the next No.

The following are on hand and will appear as fast as possible. Five letters from S. Wood of Sangamon co. and A. Churchill of Kane co. upon hedging, and another from Jos. Van Fleet, of Edgar co. upon the same subject; from S. T. McKean of Peoria co. upon surface draining &c.; A. Armstrong, Wabash co. upon Agr. Soc &c.; H. A. Cyrus, Adams co., upon velvet wheat, sowing wheat, &c.; J. A. Wight, Winnebago co., upon breaking prairie &c.; H. G. Bowers of Sangamon co. upon surface draining &c.; J. Macnish, M. D., Walworth co. W. T. upon poisoning wolves; Jos. T. Gifford at Alton notes by the way; Joseph Brayshaw, of Perry co. part of an agricultural address; Geo. Churchill of Madison co. the Catalpa Tree; W. Y. H. of Macdonough co., upon Agriculture; Jas. N. Brown, of Sangamon co. the remainder of pedigrees of stock; A. Churchill of Kane co. sundries, E. B. Hitt of Scott co. upon hogs, &c.

Letters have been received from the following persons out of the district of the U. A. S., not noticed elsewhere: Jos. Anderson, Plattville, W. T.; S. Bush, 2, Wethersfield, Henry co., M. Brachall, Georgetown, Vermillion co., Jos. Brayshaw, B. Keech and D. H. Mead, 2, Nine Mile Prairie, Perry co., O. Bushnell, Belvidere, Boone co., R. W. Carson, Galena; Geo. Churchill, 2, Rutlo Prairie, Madison co.; H. A. Cyrus, 2, Houston, Adams co.; Jer. Fahnestock and E. G. Stoufield, 2, Bloomfield, Edgar co., J. E. Goodeouw, 3 Springfield, Iowa Ter.; A. B. Gorden, 2, Cold Brooks, Warren co.; Dr. S. G. Gratton, Bainbridge, Williamson co.; J. S. Lathrop, Mineral Point, W. T.; Thos. D. Lemon, Lapotte, Ia.; Dan'l. McNeil, 2, Monmouth, Warren co.; Jesse Peebles, Chesterfield, Macoupin co.; Wm. Phœnix, 2, Delaware, W. T., Col. Post, Caledonia, Alexander co.; J. Weldon, Rockford; Col. Wilbanks, 3, Moore's Prairie, Jefferson co.; Z. York, Winchester, Scott co.; A. Stone, Griggsville, Pike co.; Solon Robinson, G. Lake C. H., Ia.; Elmund Morris, Burlington, N. J.; S. B. Noble, Ann Arbor, Mich.; S. Ruark, Fairview, Lawrence co.; John Thorburn and P. Gould, St. Louis, Mo.; J. C. Lockwood, McLeansboro', Hamilton co.; Henry Abell, Roscoe, Winnebago co.; R. L. Allen, 3, Buffalo, N. Y., D. Baugh, Mt. Vernon, Jefferson co.; Horace Look, Collinsville, Madison co., R. B. Slocumb, Fairfield, Wayne co., H. Phœnix, Phœnix Mills, W. T.; S. Jupiter and J. A. Noonan, Milwaukie, W. T.; J. P. Sears, Janesville, W. T.; C. Robison, Carthage, Hancock co.; John Baker, Fulton City, Whiteside co., C. Beach, Bethel, Morgan co.; D. T. Bonnel, Jeffersonville, J. Mitchell, Belleville, St. Clair co.; Wm. Drury, Millersburgh, Mercer co., G. K. Palmer, Galesburgh, Knox co., John King, Dubuque, Iowa Ter.; G. W. Fagg, Mt. Hawkins, Perry co.

CHICAGO PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED JUNE 3d, 1841.

			$ cts	$ cts
BREAD STUFFS—				
Flour, superfine,	per	bbl	3 50 @	0 00
Corn Meal,	"	bu.	28 @	31
GRAIN—				
Wheat, Winter,	"	"	50 @	60
do Spring,	"	"	40 @	48
Corn,	"	"	28 @	3
Oats,	"	"	20 @	00
Barley,	"	"	25 @	31
Beans,	"	"	37 @	5
Millet,	"	"	75 @	00
SALT—				
Fine,	"	bbl	2 50 @	00
HIDES—				
Green,	"	lb	3 @	31
Dried,	"	"	8 @	9
GROCERIES—				
Molasses,	"	gal	65 @	75
Sugar, St Croix,	"	cwt	11 50 @	12 00
do N. O.	"	"	10 00 @	11 00
do Maple,	"	lb	6 50 @	7 00
Tea, Imperial,	"	lb	1 00 @	1 12
do Y. Hyson,	"	"	65 @	87
White Fsh,	"	bbl	7 00 @	00
LUMBER—				
Clear,	"	M	16 00 @	20 00
Merchantable,	"	"	9 00 @	12 00
Flooring,	"	"	12 00 @	14 00
Siding,	"	"	10 00 @	14 00
Rafting,	"	"	7 00 @	8 00
Shingles,	"	"	2 00 @	3 00
Lath, Board,	"	"	8 00 @	10 00
PROVISIONS—				
Pork,	"	cwt	2 25 @	2 50
do Mess,	"	bbl	8 00 @	9 00
do Prime,	"	"	7 00 @	8 00
Beef on foot,	"	cwt	3 00 @	3 50
do packed,	"	bbl	7 00 @	10 00
Hams smoked,	"	cwt	5 00 @	6 00
Lard,	"	"	5 00 @	6 00
Butter,	"	lb	6 @	8
Eggs,	"	doz	5 @	6
Chickens,	"		12 @	18
VEGETABLES,				
Potatoes,	"	bu	20 @	00
Tomatoes,	"	"	1 25 @	00

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

FOR sale by the subscriber, a few full blooded Berkshire Saw Pigs, and one Boar Pig. The Sow was of the stock of the late Judge Buel, and they got by Black Hawk

JNO. S. WRIGHT

Chicago, 29 Aug. 1841

I HAVE procured the superior blooded Short-Horn Bull,

BULWER,

Of Dr. Samuel D. Martin, of Clarke County, Kentucky, and will permit him to serve a few Cows at $10 each, at my residence, 12 miles East of Finkneyville, and 3½ miles from the road leading from Shawneetown to St Louis

PEDIGREE OF BULWER.

He was bred by Dr S D Martin, calved 21st of May, 1838, and was got by Rifleman (2532) dam Desdemona 2d,* bred by Col Powel, by Bertram, (1716) grandam Zulinda bred by Col Powel, by Malcolm, (1190,) g grandam Desdemona, bred by Mr Whittaker, of England, and imported into the United States by Col Powel, by Frederick, (1060), g g grandam Delia, bred by Mr Whittaker, by Cleveland, (140); g g g grandam Red Daisy,† bred by Mr Hustler, by Major, (398) g g g g grandam Strawberry by Windsor, (698): g g g g g grandam Old Daisy, bred by Charles Colling, by Favourite, (252): g g g g g g grandam by Punch, (531); g g g g g g g grandam by Hubback, (340)

* Desdemona 2d, the mother of Bolwer, gave 32 quarts of milk a day. Dr. Martin refused fifteen hundred dollars for Desdemona 2d.

The half of Rifleman, the sire of Bulwer, was sold by Dr Martin to J G Taylor for seven hundred and fifty dollars.

† Red Daisy gave 32 quarts of milk a day — Mr Hustler refused an offer of four hundred guineas for her

For further particulars concerning the talking qualities of his ancestry, see extended pedigree of his father Rifleman, and his brother Bertram 4th.

I have also nine thorough bred Cows, all bred by Dr Martin, which I am breeding to Bulwer, and shall have several Bull Calves for sale this fall.

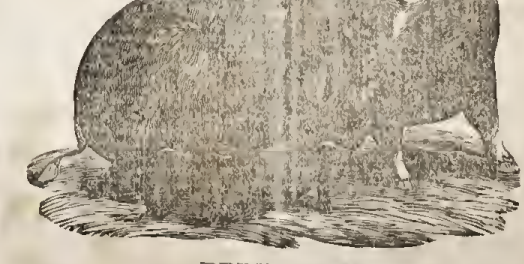
I can supply the farmers with the full blooded Durham stock at all times, as fine as can be bought in the United States, with undoubted pedigrees: (this is easily understood by referring to the English Herd-book, or the Kentucky stock book,) in place of travelling into Ohio, New York or Kentucky.

Come and examine my stock.

G. W. FAGG.

Poplar Grove, Perry co., Ill.

May 18, 1841.



BERKSHIRES.

THE above portrait was originally taken for the celebrated Saw MAXIMA, the largest in the U. S. owned by Mr. Lossing of Albany, N. Y., she has recently been sold for $400 to Mr. Cord of Kentucky, where it is said, the Berkshires are left entirely in the shade by the Welsh or old Irish Grunters.

E. A. Mulford, of Roanoke Farm, 9 miles north of Chicago, has a Sow (Dido) a pig of Maximas, which bids fair to equal her dam in size, and of which, the above cut is as perfect a likeness he considers it impossible for a better to be taken, his stock at present consists of four Sows and two Boars: pure in blood and unrelated; persons desirous to obtain pigs can be accommodated, at Eastern prices, cared and delivered in Chicago, if application is made soon.

August 23th, 1841

The Union Agriculturist



AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

VOL. I. CHICAGO, JULY, 1841. NO. 7

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. EDITED BY THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, THE ORGAN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TERMS.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance.* Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid.* Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1,50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance.* Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST.

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

JULY, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

JOHN DEAR CATON,	of Will Co.,	President.
LEVI HILDS,	La Salle "	
HOLDEN SIBLEY,	Will "	
LEWIS ELLSWORTH,	Du Page "	Vice Pres.
JAMES T. GOODHUE,	Kane "	
SETH WARREN,	McHenry "	
WM B OGDEN,	Cook "	Treasurer.
JNO. S. WRIGHT,	do "	Rec. Sec.
Do.	do. "	Cor Sec.

SHALL THE UNION AGRICULTURIST BE SUSTAINED? The Union Agricultural Society is prepared to answer positively—*it shall* Should the receipts be insufficient to pay the expenses of publication for this year, the increase of the subscription list another year, will be certain to cover the deficiency But the Society is only able to say, *it shall be sustained.* The farmers themselves must decide the question

Shall it be sustained on a scale commensurate with the importance of the cause it advocates, and with the greatness of the country it is designed to benefit?

Being now in its infancy, the Society does not feel authorized to involve itself in a debt which might prove its ruin, even for so important a consideration as improving its paper. But the Society having pledged itself to use the receipts for the paper in enlarging it, the farmers themselves, by their actions,—not words alone—must decide the rapidity and degree of its improvement.

The Society commenced its paper, calculating the expense according to the printer's estimate But it was found to contain 76 thousand "ems" instead of 50 to 55 thousand, as estimated, which increased the expense for the year about $450 We were to receive for editorial services, whatever could be made on 1000 subscribers; all the profits over that were to go to the Society, and be expended in enlarging and improving the paper. According to the first estimation, this would have given us about $300, with which, particularly about these days, we should be perfectly satisfied. But instead of 1000 subscribers, we have about 500; which, with the increased expense of setting the type, makes it necessary to have about $400 more, to pay the bare expenses of printing, engraving, and paper. Therefore, making a virtue of necessity, for we see no way to avoid it, we must GENEROUSLY give in our services for the year. Now, please don't say, "you get all they are worth"

Thus much by way of explanation, and to show with what economy the Society publishes its paper; which leads us to say, that having not the slightest pecuniary interest in the paper, we feel at perfect liberty to abuse you or any other man who is able to and us, and yet refuses to give his dollar. But seriously, reader, the Society wishes very much to enlarge the paper another year; and if $400 more be received on this year's subscriptions, with the commencement of another volume, four pages more shall be added, when it will be the largest agricultural paper published in the U. S. The amount of original communications, so liberally furnished, makes an enlargement very necessary; and we are obliged to put over from number to number, a large amount of matter selected from some thirty "exchange" publications, and quite a number of agricultural works, which the Western farmer would like to see; and which would doubtless be of great benefit to him.

It seems to us, that every reader will so realise the importance of this sum being made up to the Society, that if not a subscriber, he will immediately become one, and if he belong to the honorable fraternity, that he will use increased exertions to induce his neighbore to join it.

But having had a little experience recently in procuring subscribers, and fearing the paper by accident, for it could not purposely, might fall into the hands of some one having an excuse for not subscribing, or, at least, for delaying, we will attempt to answer a few of them And first for that "knock-downer."

"*I want some o' your book-farming about me.*" We are happy to say, this one is seldom made. It has become obsolete. In a recent tour of several hundred miles, we heard it made but once. Farmers have learned that *printing* an idea does not destroy its value—that if they would enjoy an hour's confab with an intelligent, experienced farmer, it answers a very good purpose to read his communications in an agricultural paper, and with this advantage, that in order to converse, a farmer might be obliged to spend an hour, when he had very pressing work on hand: but the paper he can take up at his leisure; and should important ideas escape him, he always has it for reference to refresh his memory. What if some visionary, theoretical farmer now and then inserts a foolish thing, is there not still enough left that is valuable? is there not wheat enough among the chaff to pay the expense and trouble of winnowing?

2 "*The times are so hard, I can't afford it.*" You do not belong to the foregoing class; and nine out of ten of you would add, "I should like much to subscribe, if I were able." You, doubtless, realise the importance of sustaining an agricultural paper in the West: and suppose that if any can be sustained, this will be one, if not the only one. We therefore, say nothing on this point, but would ask you how it is to be sustained, the times being so hard, unless by a united effort of those intrusted in its prosperity In times like these, we cannot expect great pecuniary sacrifices for the public good —a few individuals cannot sustain such an enterprise; and what is done, must be by the contribution of our mites. And why not you afford the aid which you expect to be given by others in like circumstances with yourself? for it is too true, we are mostly poor.

But you are not *throwing away* your dollar—you are not giving it merely as a public benefaction, you will receive for it a full equivalent. No better reading can be put into the hands of your children, and the instructions for the management of stock, for the garden, field, and house you will find valuable for constant reference Should a valuable animal be taken sick, very likely among the "useful recipes" you might find a cure, which might save you the loss of an animal worth many times the cost of the paper. The hard times then, is indeed no excuse; but on the contrary a strong reason why you should subscribe at once.

3. "*It is too dear; the New Genesee Farmer or some other paper, I can get for 50 cents.*" Then subscribe to make this cheaper. If all those now taking foreign papers were each to take a copy of this, we pledge our word the Society would make this cheaper than any other agricultural paper published in the U S To make it such is the very object of our addressing you, and it is a shame to the West, that any other country should be able to furnish its citizens with a better or a cheaper paper, than one published at home The present number is sufficient evidence that our farmers are able to prepare communications, second to none in value, and indeed no section of the Union furnishes an equal amount of talent in the agricultural portion, as the part of Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, where we expect this paper to circulate. Let some of the usual spirit of Western enterprise be manifested in sustaining it, and neither Sucker Hoosier, Hawkeye or Badger, would be ashamed to meet it in the land of his birth. And, reader, please be careful you become not so infatuated with this idea of Western enterprise, as to forget it is made up of *individual* exertions. Your dollar received will give us proof that you "take."

4. "*But I take one paper already.*" That is no reason why you should not take this. Remember this is Western—adapted particularly to the *Western* farmer: and very little of our selected matter being taken from any one paper you would have but little alike in them Besides we need your aid for this. Your taking one or a dozen others helps not us make this cheaper.

5. "*I reckon I won't subscribe just now.*" If paper had been in existence when the old man pounded a certain proverb, he would most certainly have had publishers of papers in his eye; for with them, *par excellence*, "Delays are dangerous." If an opportunity offer to catch a subscriber. Unless you permit us to "nab" you now, we fear you are gone past recovery. Soon you will be saying,

6. "*I'll subscribe next year*" But that does not help us this. Please remember we want to make up 400 subscribers *for this year.* Please remember also that this volume will be valuable next year as well as this; and that should you take the subsequent volumes, you will want this for frequent reference. Correspondents will often refer back to communications or selected articles that have been published in this volume; and no one will expect us to reprint matter, when there is such an abundance of new to be had. Besides, if you take this volume now, during the remainder of the year you will have an opportunity to examine it more thoroughly, and become familiar with its most valuable parts. Again, by subscribing now, you reduce the number one, which it is necessary the Society should obtain in order to enlarge the paper another year. Thus you, as well as every other subscriber present or future, would desire should be done.

Have you any other excuse? If you have we can't answer them at this time; for it is past twelve o'clock Saturday night, or rather Sabbath morning We trust you have not had patience to read the answers thus far; but have determined, in order to get rid of us, to send your dollar If so, we will call you a first rate clever fellow, the longest day of our (editorial) life.

THE PLOUGH.—There seems to be more difficulty in procuring a plough suitable to our prairies, than any other agricultural implement that is as necessary. Many kinds have been tried, and observing farmers would render a most essential service to the west, if they would publish their experiments. Could the Union Agriculturist be made instrumental in introducing a plough of the right kind to prairie farmers, that alone would be a sufficient benefit to pay them for sustaining it.

"Clod-hopper," in the Backwoodsman, Greene co., recommends highly the "Diamond" plough, and "Cincinnatus," in a subsequent No. of the same paper, recommends as its superior, what he calls the "Diamond Cary" plough. The "Cary" plough was invented by Mr. Jewett, resulting, we believe, in Sangamon co. At any rate the "Cary" plough has been largely manufactured there. The "Diamond Cary" we suppose to unite some of the peculiarities of both. "Cincinnatus" says of it, in comparison with the "Diamond," "it runs steadier, and will turn over more ground with the same power, which it completely pulverises."

Since writing this article, Mr. Gifford, V. P of Kane co., says this (Jewett's) plough is just the thing for the prairies, and that it scours well We hope some of them will be on hand for exhibition at the fair of the U. A. S.

There is a plough now manufactured by Mr. Whiting, at Rochester, N. Y., formerly of Wisconsin, and which he calls the "Wisconsin" plough. With regard to its merits we are unable to speak except from the testimony of the inventor. At the trial at Worcester, Mass., last fall, it fell far behind the others; but Mr. W. says he had not a fair trial, not knowing that ploughs out of the district would be permitted to compete for the premium.

Among the Eastern ploughs the "Howard" is highly recommended for strength, and the Committee, at the trial of ploughs at Worcester, last fall say of it;" Should our opinion be asked as to which of the ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light, and easy to work by Prouty & Mears', but if your land is heavy, hard or rocky, begin with Mr. Howard's" Joseph Breck & Co. of Boston, in a communication to the Albany Cultivator, say that in the last 16 years they have sold at least 20,000 of these ploughs warranted, and not a dozen have been returned. Speaking of the Worcester Show, they say, "The Howard plough run rods without a holder, taking the furrow up and turning it completely over, turning every thing from the top directly to the bottom, leaving the bottom of the furrow as smooth as is possibly could have been done by shoveling the dirt out by hand" The "second" premium of $75 was awarded at that fair to Mr. Howard, "for the best plough that will turn the sod on the edge or obliquely, and *set flat*; regard being had to the strength of the plough, easiness of draught, excellence of work and its cheapness" In this kind of furrow, as we should judge from extracts from the report, it turned over 29½ inches, to 112 lbs. draught. The expense of this plough in Boston is from $6 to $15.

At this same Show, Prouty & Mears' plough took the first premium of $100, "for the best plough that will turn the sod over and lay it flat; regard being had to the" qualities above mentioned. In the last furrow it turned over 27½ inches to 112 lbs. draught, and Mr. Howard's 25 inches.

If any of these ploughs have been used in the West, we should be glad to hear of them, and we would say to these or any other manufacturers, that no reasonable man would desire a better fortune than would be required by one who should introduce a plough of the *right kind* upon these Western prairies. *One that will scour,* is the great object. Had our Society funds to spare, a premium would have been offered for the best plough at the coming fair; but it would be premium enough for a manufacturer to convince the Western farmers that he had a plough adapted to their wants; so that if any manufacturer should be desirous of introducing his plough where he might sell thousands upon thousands, it would be well worth his time and the expense to attend the fair of the U. A. S., the 3d Wednesday in October.

ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. What is doing for the furtherance of this important enterprise? Who have subscribed? How many members are there? Every reader knows whether he is a member or not; and if he has so long neglected the privilege, let him not only forward his name and dollar to the Treasurer, JOHN WILLIAMS, Springfield; but let him also, as some atonement for the neglect, indeed his neighbors to do the same. The Society has at present no other means of raising funds; and as one object, and one that we consider very important to this new country, is to offer premiums—silver cups, etc, for the best essays upon the various branches of farming; and as to do this there must be funds, we hope every one will feel the importance of rendering his aid and influence. Were the Vice-presidents to take hold with zeal, they could accomplish much. Besides personally soliciting subscribers, could they not awaken interest, by writing articles for publication in the newspapers in their vicinity? Please try it. Do the one, and leave not the other undone.

The County Societies, that have become auxiliary should send in notice thereof to the Recording Secretary, I. S. BARTON, Springfield; with the names of the officers, a statement of the plan and prospects of the Society, and any other information that might be desirable.

Whenever a Society holds a meeting, the Union Agriculturist should be brought before it, and efforts made to induce subscriptions We do not urge this alone, nor chiefly on account of the increased patronage it would bring to the paper, but because of the advantages of circulating agricultural information, and bringing before the farmers a paper, one great object of which is to impress upon its readers the importance of sustaining these associations.

DESCRIPTIONS OF DISEASES.—Our correspondents have furnished many valuable recipes for curing diseases in the various kinds of stock; but if they would describe the disease for which a remedy is given—its symptoms, etc., they would render an essential service to many readers. Very possibly, a careful reader of the paper might have an animal sick; and not knowing the nature of the attack, he knows not what remedy to apply, when a perfect one might have been furnished in the paper. Information of this kind is highly prized by those commencing farming and stock-raising.

FINE DURHAM STOCK.—We refer our readers to Mr. Fagg's advertisement, those wishing to purchase, as affording an excellent opportunity: and those having stock to sell, as an example worthy their imitation Our paper falls directly into the hands of those who would like to purchase; for a farmer desirous of improving the stock, would be the very man to add a paper at home, so that he adds the aid to us, which of course is great, a man cannot pursue a course more certain of benefiting himself, than by advertising liberally in our paper.

LAPORTE CO. IA. It is not our intention generally to publish the proceedings in full of agricultural meetings, the list of prizes offered, etc., but to the request to publish the proceedings of the Laporte Society, we could not with hold an assent, after the very flattering compliment paid the U. A. S. in offering so many copies of its paper as prizes

We are greatly obliged to our efficient friend SHUEY, of the GAZETTE, for his invitation to visit that fine county. A few years since, we had occasion to pass through it frequently; and each time saw new beauties. The first opportunity, we shall avail ourselves of Mr. S.'s kind offers, and see for ourself, the rapid improvement that must have been made. If unable to go there before, we shall be at the Fair of the Society in Oct.

WABASH CO.—Mr. A. Armstrong, the Secretary of the Wabash co. Agr. Soc. writes us, the first Fair of that Society will be held the first Wednesday in October. By the Register, (which, by the way, we have not received for some time back,) we see there is a liberal list of premiums offered

STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND.—The inhabitants of the West, are brought together from all parts of the country—North, South and East; and every means should be employed to increase acquaintance with each other, and form those friendships, without which the world is but a dreary waste. One excellent method is to become acquainted through this paper. Suppose two farmers should meet in a stage or on a boat, who had read each others articles in the Union Agriculturist; after learning each others names, how long would it be before they would be like old friends! This is not one of the least of the benefits to be expected, from the continuation of this paper.

COMMUNICATIONS.

DRAINING.

To the Editor of the Union Agriculturist.

Dear Sir,—I owe you an apology for not having forwarded some 5 or 10 names to your paper, together with the amount of their subscriptions; I have not done thus much yet however, but shall feel that I have not performed my duty until I have accomplished it. Hard times! hard times! is the cry. I am fully persuaded, however, that a subscription to your paper would be the best way to make them easier. I have no doubt that every number of your paper is worth more than a dollar to each subscriber, provided he would act intelligently on the useful hints and exporiments they contain, this is the very paper we want, a Western paper, a dapted to the peculiar culture of these noble prairies, requiring a treatment altogether different from anything elsewhere; for instance, among other important things the subject of *draining* should early engage the attention of every farmer, for not to speak of the hundreds and thousands of acres of land useless unless drained, who has not one or more unsightly profitless sloughs, from two to four or six rods in width, running some forty or eighty rods through his best lands? and who so fortunate as not to have lost more or less stock when turned out in the spring in attempting to cross them? And again, at the head of these same unsightly profitless sloughs, are some five to fifty acres of the best land which in a wet season is much injured for the want of *draining*. But *draining*, says one, is a very expensive thing, and I cannot yet afford it; land is too cheap and labor too high. True, you cannot if you follow Loudon, excellent I have no doubt for England, or other districts of country where they will apply; you may clearly examine his fine plates and implements used, understand well all the various modes of making and the materials used, whether they be tile, gravel or cinder drain, cobble stone, clay pipe or wood drain, you may enter into all his nice calculations, but you cannot apply them here with profit, for two reasons, in the first place they are too expensive, and in the next they are not needed. Again you will find nothing in the practice of our Eastern neighbors at all more practical when applied to our prairies; what then is to be done, where shall we seek information on this, important subject; why, sir, among ourselves, each giving his experience in the "Western Prairie Farmer."

Surface draining, I apprehend, is best adapted to our wants, as it respects use and economy; it possesses the twofold advantage of reclaiming the land and concentrating the water in a narrow channel of some 12 or 18 inches in width, leaving the banks dry and firm to the water's edge, and furnishing convenient stock water, of which nature has perhaps provided us a more abundant supply than is to be found in any other country, the advantages of which are incalculable to the stock farmer. My practice has been to select a dry season, to run three furrows with a prairie plough, laying the turf on either side, (to remain through the winter,) forming a drain of about two feet in width, then ran another furrow in the middle to break up the grass roots and loosen the earth, which I have in some instances shovelled out, spread and sowed with grass seed, and in others have left it to be worked out by the fall rains; the following spring I have found the sods (turned over and lying on the bank), from the combined action of decomposition and frost entirely loose and easily spread with a hoe, which when completed, I have usually cleared the drain (for a pretty good drain is now formed) with a hoe, raking out the loose roots of grass, which, with assistance afforded by the running water, is easily done, again running another furrow to loosen the earth; I then, after burning off the dead grass, sow grass seed and harrow it in; the work is now accomplished, and two to three dollars will cover the entire expense of a drain eighty rods in length. I have formed three such drains through sloughs, either of which you could not cross in the spring without going ancle deep in water, you can now walk over any part of them, with your morning slippers if you please, without wetting your feet: timothy, red top and blue grass have displaced the wild grass, affording herbage perfectly sweet. In regard to the flat or wet land before alluded to lying in the vicinity of a slough, now become a streamlet, I am in the habit of running water furrows so as to prevent standing water after a rain, and rendering them capable of any kind of culture. I consider no money so well laid out as that for draining, as it regards beauty, health, or cent. per centum profit.

Yours respectfully,
H. G. BOWERS.

BERLIN, Sangamon Co. Ills., June 25, 1841.

HEDGING—DITCHING.

MR. EDITOR,

Dear Sir,—Having never in my life attempted to write any communication of any kind for the public press, I with some hesitancy send you the enclosed correspondence with your esteemed correspondent, Mr. Churchill. Having commenced the spring to make me a farm, my curiosity led me to examine all and every thing that I could lay my hands upon on the subject, and among the rest was your excellent paper, which I pronounced to be the very best agricultural paper I ever saw, and have been too a reader and subscriber of such a work for the last eight years. The idea of Hedging and Ditching is a new one in this section of the country, but it is one which I have very fairly digested for the last two years, and have enclosed 60 acres this spring with a ditch and embankment. I have seen in your paper some *calculations* on the subject that seemed very fair, but I will give you ere long some *facts* that I think will brighten the prospect of *ditching*, and I hope satisfy any that may see or hear of my experiment, that the making an inclosure or farm without much timber, is no longer to be considered an experimsut, for I do know that it can be done.

The enclosed communications you may put in form and publish or not, as you think best.

I am yours, sir, with respect,
S. WOOD.

BERLIN, Sangamon Co. Ills., March 24, 1841.

Dear Sir,—I this morning saw in the Agriculturist a communication from you on the subject of Hedging. I am a young hand at the business, and intend to put in about 60 acres under a ditch, and had intended to have planted locust seed on the inside of the embankment, where the sod will be removed, and where I intend to make the hedge row. I had selected locust for the hedge, for the reason that it is so easily propagated; you (I see) do not approve of locust for a hedge. Did you ever see a Locust Hedge? or do you believe that it will make a good one? or do you think that cotton wood will be better—and will cotton wood grow from the branches cut and put in the row? I would be very thankful for any information on the subject which you will be pleased to give me, and will anxiously look for a letter from you on the subject, as none of it has ever been done hereabouts.

Yours with respect, S. WOOD.
A. CHURCHILL, Esq.

AVON, Kane Co. Ill., April 5, 1841.

Dear Sir,—I received yours of 24th March on the date of this, and hasten to answer it.

It cannot be expected in this new part of the State that hedges have been made to any great extent, and the cotton wood being a new material has not, it is true, been sufficiently tested to speak from experience of its qualities, for that reason I will give you a partial history of my experimenting on hedging materials.

I came into the country in 1834; in 1835 I put up a piece of embankment on wet and dry ground; while building, I put in willow slips on the wet ground, and crab, thorn, and plumb with roots on the dry ground. Finding the next spring that I had not commenced in the proper place, I suffered the hogs to level it. I found that the willow had sent out long roots which formed so much of a support to the bank that in places it was difficult for the hogs to destroy it; and that the crab, thorn and plumb were easily removed. Since that time I have been continually in search of a material that should answer as well for dry ground as willow did for wet. In 1840 my attention was drawn to the dwarf willow from discovering that the slips would grow if slightly covered with earth; thus I discovered while trying to eradicate them from a new garden that I was forming. The cotton wood I commenced experimenting on at the same time. I cut the young shoots from a tree that came up accidentally in my field, and stuck them in my garden, not one failed to grow, though some were no more than three inches long and not the eighth of an inch in diameter. I examined the roots in the fall to ascertain their length, and found some two feet long; but judge of my surprise, on taking up the trees a few days since, to find roots ¾ of an inch in diameter, which I broke off at three feet long where they were half an inch thick, so that the roots must have been about eight feet long. The slips or cuttings that I set grew from one and a half to four feet last season.

I have seen an attempt at locust hedge in the State of N. Y., which proved a failure.

I have the fullest confidence in the cotton wood, and shall not hesitate *again* to recommend it for hedging.

I adopted the mode of "laying" recommended in the Albany Cultivator for the three thorned locust and other forest trees, and I can conceive of no wood better adapted for that form of hedge than the cotton wood, as when it is young it is pliable and smooth, and cattle do not appear to be over anxious to browse it.

I consider the rapid growth of the roots highly important, for the ditch and bank will need support before any hedge can obtain sufficient growth.

Yours, &c.,
A. CHURCHILL.

S. WOOD, Esq.

BERLIN, Ills., April 14.

Dear Sir,—I received youre of the 5th April yesterday morning, and was much pleased with your ideas and experience on my favorite subject (hedging). Although you do not seem to favor my particular untried mode of hedging with the locust, yet you recommend the cotton wood, which is as easily propagated as the locust, or more so. Will not the cotton wood make too much timber, or grow too large for hedging? Can it be kept within the bounds of a hedge by pruning, &c.? And, where do you recommend putting in the cotton wood slips? upon the lower edge of the embankment, next the ditch, or on the embankment? or on the inside of the embankment?

Your answers to these enquiries, and any other information on the subject, will be very thankfully received by a young farmer.

Yours with respect, S. WOOD.
A. CHURCHILL, Esq.

AVON, Kane Co. Ills., April 24.

Dear Sir,—Yours of the 14th was received on the 22d, and as the mail does not leave our office until the 28th, I fear this will be delayed longer than will be agreeable to you.

Your queries are just and proper, though I fear that I cannot answer them to your satisfaction.

The cotton wood is, as a forest tree, large—but when growing in the open field does not incline to run to great height, like the Lombardy poplar, to which it is very nearly allied. How it will endure heading down or trimming, I cannot say; but I should judge from its disposition to throw out shoots when trimmed, that it will endure it well.

I should stick the cuttings on the top of the embankment, just within the sod. Insert them not less than ten inches in the earth; two or three buds above the ground are sufficient.

I never have stuck any except those of one year's growth, that is the young limbs and shoots.

If you have copies of your communications to me, and should think that in connection with mine to you, they would be of any use to others, please send them to the editor of the Union Agriculturist, and suggest any other queries you may think proper, and I will answer through the U. A. Yours with respect,

A. CHURCHILL.

S. WOOD, Esq.

For the Union Agriculturist.

ALTON, June 21st, 1841.

A JOURNEY IN ILLINOIS.

Friend Wright:—In the course of my perambulations, from Elgin to this place, I have seen much of Illinois farming—soil, crops and stock, well calculated to gratify a taste like mine; and also, much showing the necessity of further encouragement of agricultural improvements. I have often had placed before me, the great contrast between the appearance of the premises of farmers of apparently equal means. One with a tenement, whether of logs frame or other material, whether of costly or very plain finish, snugly enclosed; its yard filled with shade or fruit trees, shrubbery and flowers, screening the domicil from the rays of the summer's sun and the blasts of winter; the foliage imparting fragrance and coolness to the air, the neatness and comfort of the whole conveying an idea of elysium. The other, perhaps unenclosed, or if enclosed, unsheltered by a shade tree and unornamented by a flowering shrub or plant, the rays of the hot sun reflected by the naked earth or timber, giving to the air within and without, on a warm day, an almost insupportable heat, reminds one strongly of a purgatory. I have often been led to reflect, when witnessing these strongly contrasted scenes, how much beauty, how much actual comfort and enjoyment is lost for want of a little time, which even the poorest settler may appropriate, at planting out shade trees. Many in the central counties of Illinois are setting praise worthy examples in this matter.

The improvement of Stock, particularly of hogs, appears to have received much attention in Morgan, and several surrounding counties. The peculiar interest in the matter has been doubtless produced and kept up by the annual fairs, and premiums awarded by agricultural societies. I have seen some very beautiful pigs from a cross of Irish Grazier and Berkshire. The Irish and Bedford are highly approved among the farmers of Morgan, where probably more attention has been paid to blooded hogs than in any other county. Hogs of the Bedford and Irish blood mostly attain, at one year old, from three to four hundred and fifty pounds weight, and at two years old, from five to six hundred pounds. Many intelligent farmers, I find, recommend keeping the pure blood Irish, Bedford, and Berkshire, and breeding a cross for stock, in preference to breeding from a cross. One thing I have uniformly observed, where I have found good hogs, whether blooded or scrubs, a heap of old corn in the crib not far off, and a right smart chance of cobs lying about. I sort o' reckon the hogs had something to do at stripping the cobs, which has made them a mighty heap better, I allow, than they would have been without it.

Respectfully yours,
JAMES T. GIFFORD.

NOTE. Our friends in travelling would render us essential benefit, by imitating Mr. G's. example, and sending for publication judicious remarks upon improvements that have been made, or which might be made with advantage. An observing traveller will pick up a multitude of facts that should be generally known.

For the Union Agriculturist.

HOGS.

As pork is and must be, for many years to come, the main article the farmer is to make money from, too much pains cannot be taken to procure the best breed of hogs. The Russian, Byfield, and Irish Graziers are all good. We have a cross from all of these and they do well, the Berkshires I have not seen, I cannot therefore say any thing of them from experience, but presume from report that they are equal, if not superior, to any of the others. The hogs in this country, previous to the introduction of the improved breeds, were as much below par as the native inhabitants were inferior to the best improved society. Our native or original breed of hogs improve fast by crossing with any improved kinds, but it is desirable to breed from the pure blood when it can be done; for then we may expect all our hogs will be large and fine, whereas, in the cross, some will be but little if any better than the original stock. The same may be said of crossing the small China with any of the larger breeds, each of the litters to the tenth generation will show some of the pure China, whilst the others will be as pure of the other stock; and no selections can be made from the mixed breed that will run out the smaller kind. My hogs have never had the kidney worm or any other disease, when I have practised throwing ashes on the ground where I feed them, every week or two.

HORNED CATTLE.

Beef I consider the next article to pork to be depended on by farmers for making money, therefore it is necessary to pay attention to stock-raising. Much may be done by importations of the finer breeds of cattle, but in my opinion far more by improving on our native stock; for the reason that comparatively few can be benefitted by the imported breeds, whilst all may improve the stock now in the country. Let a general move be made among the farmers, let every owner of cattle commence immediately to improve his stock by selecting the best to breed from, and then take the same care of them that he would of an imported Durham bull, and I will venture to predict that ten years will show a greater improvement in the stock of Illinois, than will be made by importations in three times the term. The breeds that are held in so high estimation by breeders of fine cattle, must have better care than our common stock or they will deteriorate and fall behind our scrub cattle. I am aware that I am on disputed ground, and that my opinions will by many be considered not orthodox, but they are my opinions, founded on observation and reflection. I therefore do not hesitate to let them be known. One subject more and I have done, that is, *the comparative value of corn and other crops.* I notice in all the agricultural papers much said about raising roots for feed, whilst very little is said on the subject of corn. It may be best to raise roots in those countries where corn does not grow well, but, in all corn growing countries, that will continue to be the feed for stock, no matter how much may be said and done in favor of the different varieties of roots. To a person who has been accustomed to see from one to two hundred head of cattle fed through the winter for beef in the spring, the idea of feeding them on roots appears a trifling business, or rather a business that could not be very advantageously done.

SAMUEL T. McKEAN.

NORTHAMPTON, Peoria co., May 22, '41.

For the Union Agriculturist.

COTTON WOOD FOR HEDGES.

BLOOMFIELD July 12th, 1841.

Dear Sir:—Absence from home for several months, added to the hurry of business while at home during the time for setting my crops for the season, is my apology for not writing to you, in acknowledgment of the receipt of the three Nos. Un. Agr. together with your note of the 11th Feb. Feeling as I do a deep interest in sustaining a paper so justly deserving the patronage of the farmers of this country, I shall do all in my power to assist you.

I have noticed several articles in the Agriculturist on the subject of fencing and planting hedges, and among the various kinds used, that of cotton wood was noticed. I would just remark that I have been making some experiments with this article which may be not altogether uninteresting to the readers of your paper. I commenced one year ago; about the 1st of April I cut scions from trees that were four or five years old, about eight inches long, and set them in the ground, to the depth of 5 or 6 inches, and about 6 inches apart in a straight line. There were many that grew last year to the height of 5 feet, but this was not uniformly the case, which I presume was owing chiefly to the scions not all being well

sect. Undoubtedly there were other causes which contributed in occasioning a difference in the growth; such for instance as some places being more moist than others, also some of the scions being older than others, or being cut off nearer the trunk of the tree. But my researches have not been minute enough to determine which is most liable to fail. I planted some again this last spring, but considerably later, the leaves had grown to the size of a dollar or many. I discover there are some yet living, but I think the latter was too late and the former too early. My plan for planting in this order was this, when the scions grow to a height sufficient, to weave them together like lattice work. I am not able to determine how long it will take for a fence of this sort to posses sufficient strength and become sufficiently condensed to turn stock, but I would imagine, from the observations I have made with regard to the growth of this kind of timber, it will not require more than 4 or 5 years. Our prairie country certainly invites experiments of this kind and when once it is found to be practicable, and the certainty of it generally known, it will not be many years till Illinois will become a densely populated state. You can use this letter as you may see fit, should you give it a place in your paper you will please rectify errors, as I am not in the habit of writing for the press.

Respectfully yours,

JOSHUA VAN FLEET.

For the Union Agriculturist.

PRAIRIE BREAKING.

(Continued from page 35.)

When no crop is intended.—If the land is broken with no intention of a crop the first season, it is advisable to cut the sod as thin as possible, say from an inch and a half to two inches, by which the desirable object of speedy decomposition is more completely attained. Formerly, the farmer made it an object to turn the sod over as completely as possible; so that when the work was done, the whole field lay as level as a house floor. This is very easily accomplished, especially with the larger plows; but experience, as well as reason, has long since conclusively established, that this was a great sacrifice of utility for beauty; and the object now sought to be attained, is either to lay the furrow in ruffles, or to lap one furrow on the other. If the breaking is shallow, the object being speedy decomposition, and no crop is designed the first season; the plough is then so rigged that the upper edge of the furrow is broken or torn every few feet, as it rolls over; leaving that edge very uneven, or in a kind of ruffle, while the other or lower edge lies straight and smooth in the furrow. Thus, it will be readily perceived, exposes the whole of both surfaces of the furrow to the complete action of the atmosphere, and if the work is well done, every particle of vegetation, no matter how tenacious of life, does at once, if it be turned over in a dry season; and it is found to be completely rotted by the next Spring

For a crop the first season—If, however, the furrow is cut deep, and a crop is expected the first season, the upper edge of each furrow is lapped on the lower edge of the one previously turned, and should be broken as little as possible, although by this process, the grass is not so certain to die immediately, nor does decomposition progress so rapidly, as in the other case, owing to the greater thickness of the furrow turned, and its less exposed situation, and consequently longer retention of moisture. Yet there is always under each furrow a certain quantity of confined air, which creates a fermentation in its immediate vicinity, which is found to be of great service to the crop, operating on the roots of the grain, something like a hot bed, or long manure well ploughed in, and which also accelerates the decay of the turf.

The Plough and Team.—As to what sized plough, or what kind of team, it is most desirable to use in breaking prairie; are questions which each one must determine from his own peculiar circumstances or situation. Every variety of team may be met with in the proper season, from two horses, turning a furrow of ten inches, up to seven yoke of oxen, turning over from twenty four to twenty-six inches. I have, at present, not leisure to examine the peculiar advantages or disadvantages of the different kinds of teams and ploughs used for this business; and hence will pass over that branch of the subject for the present, making, however, this general remark—that the narrower the furrow, the better will be, not only the first, but one or two of the succeeding crops.

I have thus taken the liberty of introducing the subject of *prairie breaking* to the notice of your readers and correspondents. As it is first in order of time in making a prairie farm, so it is among the first in importance to the prairie farmer. I am aware that I have merely glanced at the subject; but I hope this will be sufficient to induce others to go into it more particularly and give the result of *particular* experiments, which would perhaps be more satisfactory; yet I have no hesitation in asserting, that the final results will lead to the conclusions that I have stated above.

Even this cursory examination of this one subject peculiar to Western farming, is sufficient to suggest to us the multitude of others, that ought to be thoroughly investigated and completely understood, and in view of this, I ask, who for a moment can doubt the absolute necessity of a journal like yours, whose peculiar business it is to communicate information of this character. Then, sir, permit me to unite with you, in calling especially upon all Western farmers to communicate such information peculiar to this country, as their experience or observation has taught them. Let them freely point out such differences in treatment, as they have observed the soil, and various kinds of crops require, between this and any other country to which their acquaintance extends. Let this be done, and we shall all, very soon, be in possession of an immense fund of the most valuable information, which it might otherwise require a whole life to obtain I know there are many who frequently resolve that they will write, and communicate some fact, the knowledge of which would be really useful to the community, yet who from want of practice, or a false diffidence, postpone the undertaking from time to time, till it is finally abandoned. To such, I would say, that it only requires an effort, and that not half so great a one as you make perhaps every day, in matters of less importance, and the laudable undertaking is accomplished. Just make the effort and *commence*, and the principal difficulty is surmounted. But I must close.

Yours truly, J. D. CATON.

Plainfield, Feb. 17, 1841.

ONEIDA, Henry Co., March 31, 1841.

A BEE HOUSE.

DEAR SIR, * * * * *

I think of nothing to mention except my Bee House. Being (like most of Adam's race) fond of honey, disliking to kill the honest laborers, and withal rather afraid of them in swarming time; I undertook by housing them, to secure all the desirable ends in the case. I built a house 6 feet by 4; posts 9 feet. It was a frame and well covered, with tight floor, and ceiled up with siding and filled in with sand, so as to keep the temperature as uniform as possible. On the South side, about 3½ feet from the ground, I bored 8 small holes for the ingress and egress of the bees; on the outside placed a narrow shelf to alight on, and inside formed a travelling way to the log which contained the swarm, and which was raised up to the proper height by benches. The log lay horizontally, and their entrance was by a small hole in the side. They continued to swarm, and would not make honey outside the log. In the fall I killed them—bought a swarm which had been hived in the usual manner. Early in the spring I put up strong pieces of board across the house, and placed the hive or gum upon them—they were placed edgewise, and were 3 inches deep by 1 inch thick. On two of these I treated the hive, leaving it open at the bottom, and forming a travel-way up to the bottom of the hive from the places of entrance by a narrow thin board. Placing more cross pieces firmly, about 12 or 14 inches below the hive to support the comb, I locked up the door. Early in the summer, I looked in and found that the bees had filled the hive, and as there was no bottom to it, had continued to work down toward the floor. They also began on the outside of the hive, and by fall had covered the lower half of the hive all round with white comb, to the depth of from two to six inches. They had also carried down the comb toward the floor, about twenty inches below the bottom of the hive; fastening to the cross pieces as they went along. We could open the door and behold their labors, and often gratified our visitors in that way. In cold weather we cut off a quantity of honey from the outside and under the hive. Part of it was very good, part was filled with bee bread, which surprised me, as I supposed the old comb in the hive would contain all the young bees, bee bread, &c. I am confident they have never swarmed. Now comes the query—are there as many bees in my house, as there would be in three or four hives, swarmed on the usual way? and next, will the bees continue to increase in numbers in the house in the same ratio? If so, they will fill my house with honey in three years, I presume. How soon can I cut off from the cross pieces and remove entirely the old hive or gum, without breaking up the community? I have felt some anxiety on this point. I shall inform you if you desire it of the further progress of the experiment, which I consider, so far, successful. I ought to have said that the swarm was a very light one; and that they had access to a field of buckwheat, distant 50 rods. This communication was not written with a view to its publication. It, however, any of the facts may be of use to you, use them freely, changing their position and dress at your own discretion.

Yours very truly,

MARCUS B. ORMAN.

NOTE.—Mr. O. will please keep us advised of his success. Perhaps he has also some other subject upon which to write.

ESSAY ON SHEEP—No. II.

To the Editor of the Western Farmer and Gardener.

SIR,—In my former communication, I endeavored to lay before your readers some account of the particular application of the different sorts of wool, to their manufacturing purposes; distinguishing them by their well known division of *long* and *short*. In continuing the subject, I purpose taking a short review of the various breads of sheep, or such of them as I think will be interesting to your readers; explaining with as much distinctness as lays in my power, the origin of the name held at present by each particular breed; having in view, the intent of informing those who may not be acquainted with the subject, what is meant by the Cotswold, Bakewell, &c.

The long wooled sheep shall first occupy our attention; and, as they are more especially before the public mind, we will begin with the Leicestershire.

The Old Leicester, the New Leicester, the Bakewell, and the Dushley, are one and the same breed of sheep; the Old Leicester being the original stock. About the middle of last century, Mr. Bakewell, who lived at Dushley, in Leicestershire, endeavored to improve the existing sheep of that county; which he did by attention and a careful selection from all the flocks round his neighborhood, without regard to size, but having in view the greatest propensity to fatten, with that shape which he considered would produce the largest proportion of valuable meat, with the smallest quantity of bone and offal.

Having formed his stock from sheep so selected, he carefully attended to the peculiarities of the individuals from which he bred, and (from the best information) did not object to breeding from near relations, when by doing so he put together animals likely to produce a progeny possessing the characteristics he wished to obtain.

Some persons suppose that Mr. Bakewell formed the New Leicester variety by crossing different sorts of sheep. There is no reason for believing this, and the contrary appears to be the fact. He next established a system of letting rams for the season, instead of selling them, to those who wished their use—a system not only beneficial to the ram breeder, but also to the farmer. It enables the ram breeder to keep a greater number, and give his whole attention to this department; and secures to the farmer any cross he may require for any portion of his flock, without the necessity of in-and-in breeding.

Valuable as this system no doubt was, it was only after twenty years of incessant perseverance, that Mr. Bakewell had the pleasure of seeing his ideas on this subject sustained by the breeders of the country. The first ram Mr. B. let, was for sixteen shillings. Twenty-six years from that time, he let a celebrated ram, called *the Two Pounder*, for one season, at four hundred guineas each from two breeders, still reserving one third for himself, the value of the ram for that season, being thus estimated at twelve hundred guineas, (about six thousand dollars.) Mr. Bakewell's improved breed were called the New Leicester, to distinguish them from the parent stock; by some they were designated as the Bakewell, and by others the Dushley, being the place of his abode, and thus we get at the origin of all these names.

Before closing this account, it may be well to describe the peculiarities of the New Leicester breed of sheep. The head should be hornless, long, small, tapering towards the muzzle, and projecting horizontally forwards; the eyes prominent, but with a quiet expression; the ears thin, rather long, and directed backwards; the neck full and broad at its base, where it proceeds from the chest, but gradually tapering towards the head, and particularly fine at the junction of the head and neck; the neck seeming to project straight from the chest, so that there is with the slightest possible deviation, one continued horizontal line from the rump to the poll; the breast broad and full; the shoulders also broad and round, and no uneven or angular formation where the shoulders join either the neck or the back; particularly no rising of the withers, or hollow behind the situation of these bones, the arm fleshy through its whole extent and even down to the knee; the bones of the legs small, standing wide apart, no looseness of skin about them, and comparatively bare of wool; the chest and barrel at once deep and round; the ribs forming a considerable arch from the spine, so as in some cases, and especially when the animal is in good condition, to make the apparent width of the chest even greater than the depth: the barrel well ribbed home, no irregularity of line on the back or belly, but on the sides the carcass very gradually diminishing in width towards the rump; the quarters long and full, and, as with the forelegs, the muscles extending down to the hock, the thighs also wide and full; the legs of a moderate length, the pelt also moderately thin, but soft and elastic, and covered with a good quantity of white wool, not so long as in some breeds, but considerably finer.

The New Leicesters however are not without their faults, they are by no means prolific breeders. This, it is probable, may be the result of the in-and-in breeding to which Mr. Bakewell no doubt sometimes resorted. They vary much in size, at a year and a half old from twenty-four to thirty-six pounds per quarter, though we have instances of their being fed to a considerably greater weight. We have it on record that Mr. Morgan, of Loughton, fed a pure bred New Leicester sheep, the live weight of which was three hundred and sixty-eight pounds, and that of the carcass two hundred and forty-eight.

The fibre of the wool varies from five to nine than twelve inches in length, and the fleece averages from six to seven pounds; it is used mostly in the manufacture of serges and carpets.

The Cotswold sheep takes its name from a range of hills on which they are raised in Gloucestershire, and known as the Cotswold hills—being one of the grand divisions of that county. Camden says "that they derive it from the cots or sheds in which they were housed at night—or pot manently for the winter; and the wolds or open hilly grounds on which they were pastured in the summer." Every person at all conversant with the topography of England, knows that the Cotswold hills have ever been famous for the pastorage afforded to this particular breed of sheep. In 1431, Don Duarte, king of Portugal, made application to Henry IV. king of England, for liberty to export sixty sacks of Cotswold wool, that he might manufacture certain cloths of gold at Florence, for his own use. Stowe says in his Chronicle, that in the year 1467, Edward IV. gave license to pass over into Spain, certain Cotswold sheep, &c. The object that I have in making these quotations, is merely to show the antiquity of the breed. Very few pure Cotswolds now exists, and those, we are given to understand, are fast passing away. The description given of the pure Cotswold is that they are taller and longer than the improved breed; comparatively flat sided; deficient in the fore quarter, but full in the hind one; not fattening so early, but yielding a longer and a heavier fleece.

The Cotswold have been crossed considerably by the Leicester, and the prevalent breed may be said to consist of half Leicester, half Cotswold. Though a distinct breed of sheep, the similarity that presents itself in the Bakewell and Cotswold sheep of this country, would carry conviction to the mind of any breeder, that the cross has been carried to a very considerable extent, upon most, if not all of the sheep of this name, imported into America. In some parts of this country—for instance, in the territory of Iowa, or any other, where wool is the object and not the carcass—the pure Cotswold is the better sheep; they are more easily kept; are larger, though not so well formed in the body, and produce a heavier fleece. This is speaking comparatively between the Cotswold and the Leicester.

The improved Cotswold, which is the sheep we have here, will weigh from 25 to 40 lbs. per quarter; and yield a fleece of from 7 to 8 lbs. on the average.

The pure Lincolnshire sheep, like the pure Cotswold, is last disappearing. Culley describes them as having no horns, white faces; long, thin and weak carcasses, the ewes weighing from 14 to 20 lbs. per quarter, and the wethers from 20 to 30 lbs.; with thick, rough, white legs; large bones; thick pelts, and long wool, from ten to eighteen inches, and weighing from 8 to 14 lbs. per fleece. According to Ellis, they were the longest legged, and largest carcassed sheep of all others; and although their legs and bellies were for the most part void of wool—yet they carried more wool on them than any other sheep whatsoever. The contest for supremacy between the Lincolns and the Leicesters was long and acrimonious, and doubt even now exists in the minds of some, with regard to the relative value of the respective breeds. The cross of the Leicestershire ram on the Lincoln ewe, displayed to a great extent the excellencies of the male parent, and the wether attained its maturity in a year less time than it was accustomed to, with less comparative expense of food even in that time. The Lincolnshire sheep now is for the most part crossed with the Leicester—as indeed is the case with most of the long wooled varieties. The average weight of the fleece of the present sheep, is about 7 lbs., and of the pure Lincoln, not more than 9 lbs.; the length of the staple from eight to nine inches.

There are other long wool sheep, but from the cross of the Leicester, they have generally imbibed so much of the characteristics of that breed, that I think it unnecessary to give any lengthened description of them.

In a future number I will take a review of the short wool sheep, and give my opinion as to the adaptation of the particular breeds to Western farming purposes.

Yours, &c, UMBRA.

NOMENCLATURE OF GRASSES.

Through the active enterprise of Mr. Ruffin, of the Farmer's Register, whose exertions in the cause of agriculture are unwearing, Mr. M. A. Curtis, of Washington, N. C., has been induced to undertake a labor, which will go far to obviate the confusion that arises from the different names by which the same grasses are known in different sections of our country. Mr. Curtis proposes to make a collection of specimens, and by a comparison ascertain *exactly* the various names by which the same plant is known. The advantages of such a record will be obvious, and we freely offer our aid in furthering the laudable enterprise.

The following is Mr. Curtis's letter to Mr. Ruffin, in which he gives directions for collecting and preserving specimens.

We hope that it will be sufficient to enlist the aid of many of our readers in lending their assistance to the accomplishment of this desirable object.

DIRECTIONS FOR COLLECTING AND PRESERVING SPECIMENS OF GRASSES.

Washington, N. C., March 8, 1841.

To the Editor of the Farmers' Register:

Dear Sir,—I now send you as promised, the mode of collecting and preserving specimens of grasses.

1st. As to the time of collecting. This should be when the flowers are fully grown, but before they begin to fall off. If any one is in doubt as to what are the flowers of grasses, the easiest way to inform him is to say, that whatever is not stem or leave, will be the flowers. They have a great variety of forms, but the above rule will readily determine them.

2d. The whole plant should be collected, not excepting the root, though the dirt should be entirely removed. Of the large coarse grasses that attain a height of three to five feet or more, a foot or two of the summit will answer. Plants should never be collected when wet.

3d. Take half a newspaper and fold it once, like a sheet of cap or letter paper, then placed within it as many plants as there is room for without their overlaying each other.* Thus do with as many plants as are collected.

Now lay these sheets between other newspapers (called drims) alternately over each other; that is, first a drier, then a sheet with the plants in it, then a drier again, and so on, no matter how large the pile.

The parcel should now be put under a pressure of from fifty to a hundred pounds, and remain for about twelve hours, when the driers should be removed and *dry ones* put in their places. Three days will be sufficient for drying grasses, changing as above every twelve hours. For a press, a piece of board large enough to cover the paper

* If the plant be longer than the sheet, it may be bent over, or broken, though not severed.

might be used, with a rock, some large books, or a heavy trunk, for a weight.

When the plants have been thus dried, they can be put away in dry papers, enclosed in a newspaper and tied round, so that they may not be injured by being broken or tossed about. They should be put away in a drawer where they will not suffer from careless handling.

4th. In transporting them, care should be taken that they get no injury from rubbing, which will happen if they are loose. They should, therefore, be packed tight enough to avoid that. When carefully tied up or sealed, they can be conveyed to any distance in a trunk by private conveyance; or in a small box made to the size of the parcel, may be sent by any of the ordinary public conveyances. Boxes of plants are yearly traversing the country in this way.

If the work you have put upon me is worth doing, it is worth doing well; but this cannot be attained without the aid of those who are more particularly interested in it. I hope, therefore, that no one will leave for somebody else to do what he can so easily do himself. The grasses within the reach of any one man, the names of which he is acquainted with, are not very numerous, and the trouble of preparing two or three specimens of each will be trifling. It must be the agriculturists who will do the work of furnishing the common names, for botanists are generally professional men who are very imperfectly acquainted with them. I will, however, draw upon them personally for their knowledge, if you will secure the labors of the former in this work.

If it will furnish any new inducement to the agriculturist to engage in the plan, I will promise to return him his plants, if desired, *properly named*, so that he may have specimens in hand to refer to in cases of doubt.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

M. A. Curtis.

AGE OF HORSES BY THEIR TEETH.

From the London Library of Useful Knowledge.

The month of the horse at five years old contains forty teeth, viz: six nippers or cutting teeth in front, a tush, and six molars, or grinding teeth, on each side, above and below; they are contained in cavities in the upper and lower jaws, surrounded by bony partitions, to which they are accurately fitted, and by which they are firmly supported. For a little way above these bony cavities, they are surrounded by a hard substance called the gum, so dense, indeed, and adhering so closely to the teeth and the jaws, as not to be separated without very great difficulty, singularly compact, that it may not be wounded by the hard or sharp particles of the food, and almost devoid of feeling, for the same purpose.

Seven or eight months before the foal is born, the germs or beginnings of the teeth are visible in the cavities of the jaws. The tooth grows, and presses to the surface of the gum, and forces its way through it, and at the time of birth, the first and second grinders have appeared, large compared with the size of the jaw, and seemingly filling it. In the course of seven or eight days the two centre nippers are seen.

They likewise appear to be large, and to fill the front of the mouth, although they will afterwards be found to be small, compared with the permanent teeth that follow. In the course of the first month the third grinder appears above and below, and not long after, and generally before six weeks have expired, another incisor above and below will be seen on each side of the two first, which have now considerably grown, but not attained their perfect height.

At two months the centre nippers will have reached their natural level, and between the second and third month the second pair will have overtaken them. They will then begin to wear a little, and the outer edge, which was at first somewhat raised and sharp, is brought to a level with the inner edge, and so the mouth continues until some time between the sixth and ninth month, when another nipper begins to appear on each side of the two first, making six above and below, and completing the *colt's mouth*; after which, the only observable difference, until between the second and third year, is in the wear of these teeth.

These teeth are covered with a polished and exceedingly hard substance, called the enamel, indeed, it is so hard that it almost bids defiance to the action of a file. It spreads over that portion of the teeth which appears above the gum, and not only so, but as they are to be so much employed in nipping the grass, and gathering up the animal's food, and in such employment even this hard substance must be gradually worn away, a portion of it, as it passes over the upper surface of the teeth, is bent inward, and sunk into the body of the teeth, and forms a little pit in them; and the inside and bottom of this being blackened by the food, constitutes the *mark* of the teeth, by the gradual disappearance of which, in consequence of the wearing down of the teeth, we are enabled for several years to judge of the age of the animal.

Dealers often talk of the filling up of the tooth. This is altogether a vulgar error. The mark never fills up. The peculiar cementing substance, which occupies the funnel or pit made by the dipping in of the enamel, never grows up, but the ridge of enamel around it is worn down, and then the blackness at the bottom is rubbed off.

The colt's nipping teeth are rounded in front, somewhat hollow towards the mouth, and present at first a cutting surface, with the outer edge rising in a slanting direction above the inner edge. This, however, soon begins to wear down until both surfaces are level, and the *mark*, which was originally long and narrow, becomes shorter, and wider, and fainter. At six months the four nippers are beginning to wear in a level; the four middle teeth are evidently level—the corner ones becoming so. The mark in the two middle teeth is wide and faint, in the two next teeth it is darker, and longer, and narrower; and in the corner teeth it is darkest, and longest, and narrowest.

We may now speak of the back teeth, or grinders. They will not guide us far in ascertaining the age of the animal, for we cannot easily inspect them; but there are some interesting particulars connected with them. The foal is born with two grinders in each jaw, above and below, or they appear within three or four days after the birth; and before the expiration of a month they are succeeded by a third, more behind. The grinders are, like the cutting teeth, covered with enamel on the sides, but not on the top, though several portions of enamel enter into their substance.

At the completion of the first year, a fourth grinder usually comes up, and the yearling has then, or soon afterwards, six nippers, and four grinders above and below in each jaw, which, with the alteration in the appearance of the nippers we have just described, will enable us to calculate pretty nearly the age of the foal, subject to some variations, arising from the period of weaning, and the nature of the food.

At the age of one year and a half, the mark in the central nippers will be much shorter and fainter; that in the two other pairs will have undergone an evident change, and all the nippers will be flat.

At two years all this will be more manifest. The accompanying cut deserves attention, as giving an accurate representation of the nippers in the lower jaw of a two-year-old colt.



Fig. 19.

About this period a fifth grinder will push out, and now, likewise, will commence another process. The first teeth are adapted to the size and wants of the young animal. They are sufficiently large to occupy and to fill the colt's jaws; but when the jaws are expanded with the increasing growth of the animal, the teeth are separated too far from each other to be useful, and another and larger set is required. Evident provision is made for these, even before the colt is foaled. In cavities in the jaw, beneath the first and temporary teeth, are to be seen the rudiments of a second and permanent set. These gradually increase, and some with greater rapidity than others, and pressing upon the roots or fangs of the first teeth, the consequence of this pressure is, not that the first teeth are forced out, but the portion pressed upon gradually disappears; it is *absorbed*—taken up, and carried away, by numerous little vessels, whose office it is to get rid of the worn out or useless part of the system. This absorption continues to proceed as the second teeth grow and press upon their predecessors, until the whole of the fangs is gone, and the crown of the tooth, or that part of it which was above the gum, having no longer firm hold, drops out, and the second teeth appear, larger and stronger, and permanent. In a few instances, however, the second teeth do not rise immediately under the temporary or milk teeth, but somewhat by their side; and then, instead of this gradual process of absorption and disappearance from the point of the root upwards, the root being compressed sideways, diminishes throughout its whole bulk; the crown or the tooth diminishes with the root; and the whole is pushed out of its place, to the fore-part of the first grinder, and remains for a considerable time, under the name of a *wolf's tooth*, causing swelling and soreness of the gums, and frequently wounding the cheeks. These would be gradually quite absorbed, but the process might be slow and the annoyance would be great; and therefore it is proper to get rid of these diminutive teeth, either by punching them out, or drawing them as soon as they are perceived.

This change of teeth commences in those which earliest appeared, and, therefore, the front or first grinder gives way at the age of two years, and is succeeded by a larger and permanent tooth.

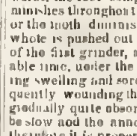


Fig. 20.

This cut will represent a three year-old mouth. The central teeth are larger than the others, with two grooves in the outer convex surface, and the mark is long, narrow, deep and black, and not having yet attained their full growth, they are not so high as the others. The mark in the two next nippers is nearly worn out, and it is wearing away in the corner nippers.

A horse then at three years old ought to have the central permanent nippers growing—the other two pairs wasting—six grinders in each jaw, above and below—the first and fifth molars level with the others, and the sixth protruding. The sharp edge of the new incisors, although it could not be well expressed in our cut, will be very evident when compared with the neighboring teeth.

As the permanent nippers grow, and press upon the teeth at their side, those teeth will begin gradually to diminish. Not only will the mark be wearing out, but the crowns of the teeth will be considerably smaller.

At three years and a half, or between that and four, the next pair of nippers will be changed, and the mouth at that time cannot be mistaken. The central nippers will have attained nearly their full growth; a vacuity will be left where the second stood, or they will begin to peep above the gum,—and the corner ones will be diminished in breadth—worn down—and the mark becoming small and faint. At this period, likewise, the second pair of grinders will be shed.

At four years, the central nippers will be fully developed; the sharp edge somewhat worn off,



Fig. 21.

the mark shorter, wider, and fainter; the next pair will be up, but they will be small, with the mark deep, and extending quite across them; and the corner nippers, larger than the inside ones, yet smaller than they were; flat, and the mark nearly effaced; the sixth grinder will have risen to a level with the others, and the tushes will begin to appear.

The tushes are four in number, two in each jaw, situated between the nippers and the grinders, much nearer to the former than the latter, and nearer in the lower jaw than in the upper, but this distance increasing in both jaws with the age of the animal. In shape it somewhat resembles a cone; it protrudes about an inch from the gum, and has its extremity sharp-pointed and curved. At the age of which we are now speaking, the tushes are almost peculiar to the horse, and castration does not appear to prevent or retard their developement. All mares, however, have the beginnings of them in the chambers of the jaw, and they appear externally in the majority of old mares. Their use is not evident — perhaps in the wild state of the animal they are weapons of offence; so as that he can more firmly seize, and more deeply wound his enemy.

There is much uncertainty as to the appearance of the tush, and it may vary from the fourth year to four years and six months.

At four years and a half, or between that and five, the last important change takes place in the mouth of the horse. The corner nippers are shed, and the permanent ones begin to appear; the central nippers are considerably worn, and the next pair are beginning to show marks of usage. The tush has now protruded, and is generally a full half inch in height; externally it has a rounded prominence, with a groove on either side, and within it is evidently hollowed. Our readers need not be told that from the rising of the corner nipper the animal changes its name—the colt becomes a horse, and the filly a mare.

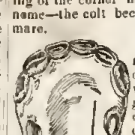


Fig. 22.

At five years the horse's mouth is almost perfect. The corner nippers are quite up, with the long deep mark irregular on the inside, and the other nippers bearing evident tokens of increasing wearing. The tush is much grown, the grooves have almost, or quite disappeared; and the outer surface is regularly convex: it is still as concave within, and with the edge nearly as sharp as it was six months before; the sixth molar is quite up, and the third molar is wanting. This last circumstance, if the general appearance of the animal, and particularly before, and the wearing of the centre nippers, and the growth and shape of the tushes, be likewise carefully attended to, will prevent deception, if a late four year-old be attempted to be substituted for a five. The nippers may be brought up a few months before their time, and the tushes a few weeks, but the grinder is with difficulty displaced. The three last grinders and the tushes are never shed.



Fig. 23.

At six years the *mark* on the centre nippers is worn out. There will still be a difference of color in the centre of the tooth. The cement filling the hole made by the dipping in of the enamel will present a browner hue than the other part of the tooth, and it will be evidently surrounded by an edge of enamel, and there will even remain a little depression in the centre, and also a depression round this case of enamel; but the deep hole in the centre of the teeth, with the blackened surface which it presents, and the elevated edge of enamel, will have disappeared. Persons not much accustomed to horses have been sadly puzzled here. They expected to find a plain surface of an uniform color, and knew not what conclusion to draw when there was both discoloration and irregularity.

In the next incisors the mark is shorter, broader, and fainter; and to the corner teeth the edges of the enamel are more regular, and the surface is evidently worn. The tush has attained its full growth, being nearly or quite an inch in length, convex outward, concave within, tending to a point, and the extremity somewhat curved. The third grinder is fairly up, and all the grinders are level.

Now, or perhaps at a period of six months before, the horse may be said to have a perfect mouth. All the teeth are produced, fully grown, and have hitherto sustained no material injury.



Fig. 24.

At seven years, the mark, in the way in which we have described it, is worn out in the four central nippers, and last wearing away in the corner teeth; and the tush is beginning to be altered. It is rounded at the point; rounded at the edges; still rounded without; and beginning to get round inside.

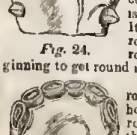


Fig. 25.

At eight years old, the mark is gone from all the bottom nippers; the tush is rounded in every way; and the mark is now said to be out of the mouth. There is nothing remaining in the bottom nippers which can afterwards clearly shew the age of the horse, or justify the most experienced examiner in giving a positive opinion.

Dishonest dealers have been said to resort to a method of prolonging the mark in the lower nippers. It is called *bishoping*, from the name of the scoundrel who invented it. The horse of eight or nine years old is thrown, and with an engraver's tool a hole is dug in the now almost plain surface of the corner teeth, and in shape and depth resembling the mark in a seven year-old horse. The hole is then burned with a heated iron, and a permanent black stain is left; the next pair of nippers are sometimes lightly touched. An ignorant man would very easily be imposed on by this trick; but the irregular appearance of the cavity, the diffusion of the black stain around the tushes, the sharpened edges and concave inner surface of which can never be given again, and the marks on the upper nippers, together with the general conformation of the horse, can never deceive the careful examiner.

Horsemen, after the horse is eight years old, are accustomed to look to the nippers in the upper jaw, and some conclusion has been drawn from the appearances which they present. It cannot be doubted that the mark remains in them some years after it is obliterated from the nippers in the lower jaw; because the hard substance, or kind of cement, by which the pit or funnel in the centre of the tooth is occupied, does not reach so high, and there is consequently a greater depth of tooth to be worn away in order to reach it; and because the upper nippers are not so much exposed to friction and wear as the under. The lower jaw alone is moved, and pressed forcibly upon the food; the upper jaw is without motion, and has only to resist that pressure.

There are various opinions as to the intervals between the disappearance of the marks from the different upper cutting teeth. Some have averaged it at two years, and others at one. We are inclined to adopt the latter opinion, and then the age would be thus determined: at nine years the mark will be worn from the middle nippers—from the next pair at ten, and from all the upper nippers at eleven. During these periods the tush is likewise undergoing a manifest change; it is blunter, shorter, and rounder. In what degree this takes place in the different periods, long and most favorable opportunities for observation can alone enable the horseman to decide, or rather we believe that the tush alone will not enable us to form a very accurate judgment.

The upper tush, although the latest in appearing, is soonest worn away.

Are there any circumstances to guide our judgment after this? There are those which will prepare us to guess at the age of the horse, or to approach within a few years of it, until he becomes very old; but there are none which will enable us accurately to determine; and the indications of age must now be taken from the shape of the upper surface of the nippers. At eight, they are all oval, the length of the oval running across from tooth to tooth, but as the horse gets older, the teeth diminish in size, and they at first diminish in width, and not in thickness. They become a little apart from each other, and their surfaces are rounded. At nine, the centre nippers are evidently so,—at ten, the others begin to have the oval shortened. At eleven, the second pair of nippers are quite rounded, and at thirteen, the corner ones have that appearance. At fourteen, the faces of the central nippers become somewhat triangular. At seventeen, they are all so. At nineteen, the angles begin to wear off, and the central teeth are again oval, but in a reversed direction, viz. from outward, inward; and at twenty-one, they all wear this form.

At nine or ten, the bars of the mouth become less prominent, and their regular diminution will designate increasing age. At eleven or twelve, the lower nippers change their original upright direction, and project forward or horizontally; and they become yellow and covered with tartar. They are yellow, because the teeth must grow to answer to the wear and tear of them; but the enamel which covered their surface when they were first produced cannot be repaired, and that which wears this yellow color in old age is the part which, in youth, was in the socket, and therefore destitute of enamel.

The upper nippers become arched, and project over the lower ones, wearing down the outer edge and gradually making that the lowest, which was at first considerably the highest.

The general indications of old age, independent of the teeth, are deepening of the hollows over the eyes,—grey hairs, and particularly over the eyes, and about the muzzle, thinness and hanging down of the lips; sharpness of the withers; sinking of the back; lengthening of the quarters; and the disappearance of windgalls, spavins, and tumors of every kind.

AN ADDRESS

(Continued from page 39.)

Gentlemen, I beg you to be assured of the solemn truth which used to be a guiding text of the celebrated John Randolph, that, "if we were deprived of the influence of female society, we should soon degenerate into a mass of brutes." And in this country, where our scattered population are deprived of many opportunities to enjoy such society, it should be one of the leading objects of this Society, to promote and foster that holy, happy influence.

You should also bring your children with you. Teach them while young. Remember that early impressions are almost indelible, and, therefore, be careful that what they see and hear should be of the right kind.

At the exhibitions of the stock and farming implements, and farm products, and household manufactures, their young curiosity will be particularly excited, and their minds impressed with useful things.

In your list of premiums, you may usefully add a few, particularly calculated for competition among the youths of your Society.

But above all, do not forget to be truly liberal

in your offers to faduca a laudable competition among your wives and daughters.

I would particularly recommend that your most liberal offers should tend to the encouragement of tha manufacture of household cloth, and don't let them forgat that they may still appear lovely in a homespun dress, of wool, flax, or silk.

Although it is not aapected that they are going to take an active part in the dry details of your business operations, I do say, and I say it with the utmost seriousness, from the strong convictions of experience, that one enterprising woman engaged in our cause, will do morn to promote the objects which this Society has in view, than ten ordinary men.

And certainly there is no part of the community more deeply interested, than the wives and daughters of farmers. We wish to make them feel tha importance af their station in society. Wa wish to elevate the whole agricultural community to that degree, that they shall feel proud of the name of "farmer's wife." Wa wish to see our girls so educated that they never will blush to hear themselves called "farmer's daughters."

Let it be an object dear to the heart of every member of this Society, to weed out every vestige of that feeling which sinks the farmer below the very first grade of society. Let us constantly impress upon their minds that they hold the same relative position to all other classes that yon climbing orb does to tha rest of our planetary system.

Withdraw the genial rays of the sun from our earth, and what a cold and usaless world would it be. Let the humble tillers of the soil cease their operations, or let them cultivate only what would be barely sufficient for their own subsistence, and what would be the condition of all other classes of society! Can you not perceive that they are as dependant upon us as we are upon the sun? Can you not perceive that wa are, and of right ought to be considered, the pillars and support of civilized society?

Why is it then, that such a false and unnatural state of things has existed, and does now exist, though to a less degree than heretofore, that makes us ashamed of our honest employment? Why do the farmer's daughters seek to connect themselves in that most holy of all connections, with those who are strangers to the ways of their father's household? Why do the farmer's sons seek to escape from their healthy occupation, and spend the bloom of their life at an employment only fit for some delicate female, measuring tape and calico behind the merchant's counter, or perhaps stooping over the physicians' mortar, and crowding into every class and kind of employment, and often into no employment at all, while the rich and teeming earth is ever inviting them to dig for a golden treasure that is always found by them that seek? 'Tis because a false estimation has been placed upon the different classes of society. False education, and pernicious ideas of respectability, have been permitted to flourish to the great detriment of tha whole body politic.

"The youth of our day, unlike tha ancients, seem to count it an honor to be delicate and effeminate, rather than hardy, manly, and daring in the field of enterprise and usefulness" which should be their highest ambition, thus to seek deserved honor and fame.

I do most earnestly assure you that I am fully convinced that here lies the first stumbling block in the way of improvement in agriculture. 'Tis a universal blight that has fallen upon the farming community. 'Tis the effect of a false and pernicious system of education, or rather a total want of such an education as is at tor the cultivators of the soil. By the term education, I do not mean solely what is taught within the schoolroom; but what is taught by the existing state of society; and by which many of our youth are brought up in the way *they should not go.*

"There is vast room for amendment in our character as a people; and, although the improvement of agriculture, as an art and a science, is the chief object of this Society," it may usefully devote somewhat of its attention to the improvement of the farmer, as a man and a citizen. "Too little attention has been bestowed on this department, even by the agricultural press." "Let the farmer be aroused to like a higher view of his own dignity and character, and be urged to appreciate more highly his own importance, both as a cultivator of the soil, and as a citizen. Let him apprehend more correctly, his own right and duties, and interests, as a member of the great producing class of community, and he will soon take that action which will result in improving the whole country." To effect this great and good moral reform, you must begin with the rising generation.

You must look into your school-houses — There is the proper place to begin to cultivate the mind.

Verily, it is a truth, that "the schoolmaster is abroad." Our good old teacher has been abroad of late years, in troth, and sadly has his place been filled with those who have taught us aught but such lessons as our ancestors were woat to learn.

Oh! what a field of usefulness invites cultivation from your Society. One of the first steps we should take, should be to bring about a better system of education. A system, suited to, and suitable for the agricultural class. Were can you now send your children to learn to be farmers? Numerous schools and colleges exist, but what do they teach? Divinity, law, physic, and loppery!!! But where, sad echo answers, where, are your agricultural schools? Do your common district schools even, ever teach the first rudiments of the first lessons, that civilized man must learn?—That is, to till the earth. What are your common school books? Is a treatise upon the most useful science in tha world, ever found in your school-room? Let my answer wound na man's feelings, for tha fault is not his, but that of a faulty education.

Your teachers are too often young men whose false education has taught them that it is disgraceful to work; whose pride compels them to seek such genteel employment as will enable them to flourish a little season a of a butterfly existence; and they are too often employed to teach your children, solely because they will do it cheap. Under such circumstances, will your children grow up to a life of usefulness? Your exertions to improve your stock and your farms are praiseworthy. Does it ever occur to our minds that we might improve ourselves? Is it not necessary for us to try to improve our system of education? Cannot your Society engraft a model school upon your proposed model farm? Surely it is a subject worthy of your serious consideration.

Cannot we improve the present taste and fashion of society? Here let me read a short extract from a journal called the "New York Mechanio."

"Ma, why were those men turned out of the assembly room last night?

"Because, my dear, they belong to the lower class: the one being a farmer, and the other a mechanic.

"But na, I thought the farmers were the most useful people in tha world, and that all other people were dependent on them for the means of living.

"Tran, my child, they are *useful* people, but they have to work for a living, and the assembly was composed of the rich, or, at least fashionable people who do not have to work. And besides, farmers are not in general so refined in their manners, as the lawyers and merchants.

"But why was tha mechanic turned out seeing he was very polite and well-dressed.

"It was for the reason that he belongs to the lower class, and works for a living as I mentioned before.

"But I suppose, Ma, that nearly all the articles of which their splendid supper was composed, were procured from the farmers; and I am sure that nearly every thing else which they had in the hall, the furniture, decorations, and aven the raiment of the company, and the hall itself in which they danced, was produced by mechanics. If, then, the first class of people are so entirely dependent on the farmers and mechanics, with what propriety can they set themselves up so much above them, and exclude them from their society?

"That, my dear child, is a privilege which the rich and fashionable have always enjoyed from time immemorial, and will never be inclined to relinquish it. And as they control a large proportion of the property and money of the community, and the farmers and mechanics are dependant on them for patronage and employment, they claim the right of superiority and exclusiveness.

"But, suppose now, Ma, that all the farmers and all the mechanics should combine and agree that they would not work for, nor sell any thing to the fashionable class, how long do you think they would maintain their superiority? or what course would they take?

"The presumption is, at least, that such a thing will never occur, because the working classes are too fond of the money which they are continually receiving from the rich, to willingly offend them; but if such a thing *should* take place, I suppose the rich and fashionable would also combine, and by their superior influence in the government, they would immediately procure a law to be passed, by means of which they would take the produce of the farmer by force, and would compel the mechanics to work, or punish them by imprisonment, or otherwise, for their obstinacy.

"But as the farmers and mechanics constitute a very large majority of the population of the State, why could they not elect such men to represent them in their legislation, as would favor their cause, and pravant the passage of any such laws?

"The difficulty in doing this, would be as at present, a want of unity and concert. The rich understand this, and by the influence of their money, and concert in their actions, they always contrive to procure the election of men of the first class, so that all, or nearly all, of the laws that are enacted, are calculated to strengthen their systems of influence, and keep the working classes continually in a state of partial subjection. Poor people, and those in moderate circumstances, are prone to court the favors of the rich, and instead of helping to build each other up, are found pressing each other down, and will frequently favor the cause of the rich against that of one of their own class. It is not so with the rich: he is never known to favor the cause of a poor man against the rich; and on this circumstance principally depends the safety of the first class, in the attitude which they have assumed, relative to the working classes, and which there is not, nor is there likely to be, sufficient concert and unity among the working classes to remove or overthrow."

Now, is there not "straight forward common sense" in that? But are you willing to acknowledge that "farmers and mechanics are the lower class" of society?

Are you "afraid to offend the rich and the fashionable?" Who made them rich and fashionable? Who gave them the right to assume to themselves all the honors, profits, and magnificent enjoyments of "fashionable life?"

Does the God of nature make envious distinctions, and decree that he who cultivates the earth shall bow himself a slave to him who reaps what he sowath not? Is it wrong that the cultivators are compelled by the decrees of "fashionable society," as now constituted, to stand aloof, nor dare to show their faces in the wedding chamber, because their backs are not covered with a proper wedding garment?

If what tha present state of society call the "first class," are so entirely dependant on the farmers and mechanics, with what propriety can they set themselves up so much above them, and exclude them from their society?

Far, far be it from me to endeavor to set one class of society in array against another. Such is not my present object: but it is to call your attention to an existing state of things, and then ask you if we have not the power to apply the remedy.

And the remedy that I would apply, is not to pull down that class of society to our level, but to build ours up. Let us by all possible means endeavor to elevate the character and standing of every cultivator of America soil. And every good man in society, will certainly lend us his aid to accomplish so desirable an object. The first step to be taken by those most actively engaged in this work, must be to gain the confidence of that class of society that we would benefit. The next, to raise the standard of education, and furnish them with the means of improving their minds, by increasing the circulation of agricultural journals among them — But above all things, to teach them to place more confidence in themselves. "The farmers and mechanics constitute a very large majority of the population of the State, why could they not elect such men to represent them in their legislation, as would favor their cause?"

"The difficulty in doing this, would be at present, a want of unity and concert."

Why have you called your Society, "The Union Agricultural Society," except it be for this very purpose?

Until such time, the farmer must look for but little Legislative aid. You must first make the pursuit of agriculture fashionable, and you will soon find votaries.

You must task your minds to tha greatest effort, to weed out that pernicious blight that has fallen upon the agricultural community—that mania that pervades and fixes a disposition upon tha minds of the farmers sons and daughters, to escape from the toil of cultivation of the soil, under the false and fatal delusion that any other employment, or even a life of idleness, is more respectable than that of their fathers.

Teach them that industry, honesty, and irreproachable moral conduct, is the true standard of respectability.

Wealth, dressed in silk and broadcloth, does not create worth. And here let me remark, that the same false notions of respectability, have produced ruinous consequences to the farmer, in the article of dress. How few of us are to be seen now-a-days, in a good substantial homespun coat. How many cheap, let me ask, are now within the limits of this Society! With a soil unsurpassed in the world, in suitableness for flax and hemp, who cultivates, who spins, who weaves their own family linen? None, or at least but few. And the reason why, is given, "that we can buy so cheap." True, the flimsy articles of the day, like Pindar's razors, *made to sell*, can be bought cheap. But who partakes of the profit of your surplus produce, that you must exchange for these cheap articles? 'Tis not the farmer. Rely upon it, if the farmer would be prosperous, his whole family must rely more upon their own resources. They must raise more wool and flax, and the banished spinning wheel must be again recalled. And in all things he must rely more upon his own exertion to improve his condition. He must take the conduct of his most vital interests into his own hands. It is idle to suppose, that legislation as at present conducted, will ever be for his benefit. But there is a wonderful change coming over the farming community. Thousands are already aroused to think; and it is a characteristic of the farmers of our country, if they begin to think, they begin to act.

Your Society is the basis upon which *Union* will build a noble fabric. I entreat you to persevere until you rally around this little nucleus every good man, of every profession, within your chartered limits.

You have already done much, and you have much more to do, but you have much to encourage you. No doubt you can already see the fruit of the little seed which you undertook to cultivate a few months ago.

Let me once more entreat you to persevere. Your community are scattered over a wide field —strangers to one another—strangers to the country, even: and you can hardly imagine the good effects that will be produced by promoting acquaintance and friendly feeling, which can be done in no way that can be devised as well as by your frequent meetings. The farmers will soon become interested; your orators will find ready listeners; and all know that the matter of a public address sinks into the mind far deeper when heard from the speaker than when read.

I regret my own inability to do my subject and my audience justice, but you must take the will for the deed. Before I close, I have a few words which I earnestly wish I had sufficient power of eloquence to indelibly impress upon the mind of every youth in America. I earnestly wish that I could rouse up in your minds, the same degree of pride that now fills my bosom. No one would believe me, if I should assert that I do not feel proud of the honor this day conferred upon me. And why? Young man! you, the humble hard toiling son of a farmer, who feel, as you hear or read tha effusions of eloquence and knowledge, and what you suppose to be long sought and hard gained learning, which you think is far beyond your means of acquiring, listen to me for one moment. Do you feel that you would be proud too, to occupy my present condition? Does your heart ever yearn after the means of acquiring that knowledge, which you deem entirely beyond your reach, and which you believe would tend to elevate your character and standing in society?

I do assure you, it is all within your own reach. No one of you were born in more humble circumstances, or spent or ara spending a youth of harder toil, than I, an orphan-boy; and all the advantages that I ever possessed, ara within the reach of every one. Bow down your mind to the determination to acquire sufficient knowledge to make yourselves useful members of society, and with the exception of only a few months of a common country school, your own firesides afford you all the facilities that I have had.

Oh, how much prouder should I feel, if at some futura day, I might be able to listen to the eloquence of some one of the present youths of this Society, who had acquired the power to rivet the attention of such a respectable audience as have honored me with their attention this day, by the same unaided exertion of his own mind, and particularly if I should hear him say that he was indused to make that exertion by what I have here said to him, and that it had been the means of raising him to that degree of honor and fame which is ever within the reach of him who will earnestly court the lovely Goddess of Learning, who is now hovering over your lowly cabin, with an open book in ona hand, and a crowning wreath of Fame's bright flowers in the other, earnestly inviting you to peruse the pleasant pages of the one, and ever wear the fascinating enjoyment of the other.

There are many now before me, to whom nature and education has been more bountiful, and if I have been enabled to mount one of the steps of the temple of Fame, it is because I have been more persevering in self exertion, in acquiring the ability to add to my own happiness, while I am endeavoring to do good to my fellow creatures, which I humbly hope I have done in some degree, this day. And as I hope to live, I hope to be blessed with the ability to do much more. And I most particularly hope that what I have here addressed to youth, may encourage them to exercise their abilities to acquire knowledge. Be assured it is not a toilsome task that I urge upon you. You will find it a path of roses. You will find pleasure increase with every step as you press onward. But you must never expect to reach that point beyond which you can go no farther. You may forever continue to ascend the temple of learning, without danger of reaching that point where you might stop and mourn that you could ascend no higher. And it is the first steps only that are rugged. The higher you ascend, the more easy is the way. The farmer's occupation, and the calm and quiet of a country fireside, are congenial to the developement of the human mind, and if we can arouse the youth to make sufficient exertion to overcome the first rugged steps, they will be sure to ascend till honor, fame and usefulness crown their efforts! — How great are the inducements of every enlightened member of society, to actively unite his efforts with ours in the great and good cause of human improvement.

I pray you to forgive the little egotism of my allusions to myself, for I have only done so to illustrate my argument, and endeavar to incite others to go and do likewise.

There are many now before me, who, by a little self-exertion, may raise themselves to a proud eminence, and from which they will often have occasion to look down with the same feelings of deep and respectful gratitude, for the respect and honor of their fellow-men, that I now do upon those before me.

And finally, my young friends, while you go on in improvement in agricultural pursuits, be cateful also to improve your own minds. Provide yourselves with means of study. Make it a matter of pride, to subscribe to some agricultural or scientific journal. Club together in every village or settlement, and procure a small library. You will soon acquire an appetite for reading that cannot be cloyed.

There are many more things that I would gladly say, but I am tearful that I have already become tedious to my hearers.

I will close with the expression of a fond hope that I may be able to enjoy the privilege and pleasure of many more pleasant meetings with this Society: though rather as a hearer than a speaker.

And if you, my friends, have but a tithe of the same feelings that I now have, you will be well assured from this day's scene of the good effects to be derived from such social and pleasant intercourse together.

I assure you, that I shall leave you with the most lively and pleasant recollections of this day, and I humbly trust the remembrance of it, and of the new acquaintances and friendships here found, will ever remain as a pleasant remento in my mind, of one of the good things derived from "The Union Agriculture! Society of Illinois."

THE GLEANER.

More Economies—How to save Oil and Candles.—Use sun-light two hours in the morning, and dispense with candles and lamps two hours after 9 P. M. The morning sun-light is much cheaper and better than evening lamp-light. —*Farmer's Monthly Visitor.*

Flowers and their Odour.—It has occurred to me, that the lovers of *sweet flowers*, who live on calcareous or limestone lands, may be benefitted by a knowledge of the fact, that disintegrated silex or sand, if not essential to the formation of the aroma of flowers, certainly promotes it, and renders it more abundant and delicate. Flowers of the richest perfume are the natives of sandy lands—Persia, Arabia, and the southern shores of the Mediterranean. Roses, Violets, Loniceras or Honeysuckles, &c., in pots, should be supplied with a considerable portion of sand; and those growing in gardens and pleasure grounds also. In many indigenous

plants which are destitute of bark, the stem or culm is strengthened by silex, taken up by the spongeoles or elaborated by the organs of the plant from its elements. Analysis detects it in considerable quantities even in the stalks of wheat and Indian corn; and I believe in all the grasses, the flowers of which are aromatic. I incline to think too, that in the rich calcareous lands of the West, away from the sandy alluvial soils of the rivers, grapes will be rendered of better body and will give wine of a superior quality, if sand (instead of manure, when the land is rich,) be mingled with the soil; and I should for these prefer even gravel to fine sand. I am not aware that the experiment has been made in regard to the grape, but it is worth a trial, if analogies are good indices.—*Cin. Far. & Gard.*

Important to Silk Growers.—The April No. of the Jour. Am. Silk Soc. contains an article by the Editor, upon a disease of silk worms called *muscardine*. In the U. S., until recently, worms have been considered exempt from this disease, though in Europe, from 45 to 50 per cent of all that were hatched, have been destroyed by it; and that, too, after the greater portion of the expense of rearing had been incurred. But in the last two years, those who have made free use of air slaked lime, have obtained cocoons from 97 per cent. of all the worms hatched. Air-slaked lime is to be sifted on to the worms, just sufficient to whiten them, and on to the floors of the cocooners; and all the wood-work of the fixtures is to be whitewashed. It is said the lime does the worms no injury if well, or if they have any other disease; and the editor, Mr. Smith, recommends that lime be sifted on them two or three times a week if healthy, and once a day if diseased, in the morning before the first feeding, and always after cleaning the hurdles.

The French have discovered that the disease consists of a fungus growth, similar to mould on cheese; scarcely discernible to the naked eye, but perfectly developed by the microscope. It is contagious—generally attacks the worms after the fourth moulting; and if not arrested, will carry off the greater portion of them. The lime should be burnt with wood, not with coal.

Mr. S. cautions silk growers against depending too much upon the use of lime, and neglecting cleanliness, ventilation, &c. Every worm that is discovered to be sickly should be removed, and as in the use of the Burlington Silk Frame, diseased or dead worms might not be discovered, when branches had considerably accumulated, we would advise all using it to remove the branches often.

We again recommend this Journal to silk-growers. For $1 the editor offers to send volumes 1, 2 and 3 complete. To beginners in the culture, the work would be very valuable, as it furnishes complete instructions.

Gathering Seeds.—Much benefit may be derived from a little careful attention to the gathering of the various kinds of seeds, used both in the garden and in the field. In garden vegetables it is quite an object to cultivate those that mature early. How much more highly do we prize the *few* fresh ones obtained early in the season, than the *abundance* of the summer and fall!

Mr. Colman has furnished a statement made by James Freeman D. D., and submitted to an Agricultural Society, in 1805, which Mr. C. says may be implicitly depended upon. Dr F. tried an experiment with the case-knife bean, for five years in succession, reserving for seed the pods first formed, which are commonly those nearest the root, and of these, the largest and fairest seeds were planted the next year. In the five years he forwarded the ripening of the seeds *twenty-six days* from the time of planting. The following is his statement:

	Planted.	*Gathered.*	*No. Days.*
1801,	May 20	Sept 9	112
1802,	" 11	Aug. 21	102
1803,	" 10	" 8	90
1804,	" 8	" 4	88
1805,	" 6	July 31	86

He planted some of the same seed a little later in the season, in 1801 & 5, with the following result:

	Planted.	*Gathered.*	*No. Days*
1801,	May 14	Aug. 8	86
1805,	" 13	" 6	85

In a former No we have noticed the importance of sowing good seed; and we would now urge upon our readers to try experiments of this kind, which can be done with so little trouble, and let the results be published. If some of our farmers were to spend an hour in selecting from their wheat the largest and best filled heads and after cutting off the tips, rub out the remainder for seed, and carefully prepare for it a small piece of ground, perhaps in the garden; and then next year select from that the best heads to be treated in like manner, without doubt he would rapidly improve his grain, and might be able to sell for seed wheat the crop raised from such seed at a price much above the ordinary price. But if he did not, would not the benefit to himself—in the increased value of it for his own seed—amply repay the trouble? Improvements in grains may be effected, as well as in animals; and farmers should no more expect good crops from poor seed, than they should look for beautiful animals from thin "scrubs."

Attention to Bees.—Those who love the busy bee should visit her hive often and guard it from her enemies. When bees become accustomed to our visits they are never inclined to use their sting—they recognize old acquaintances and are not uneasy on account of our appearance *unless we tarry too long*. They will not be offended if we daily cast up their hives and brush away the filth that accumulates under the comb. Worms which produce the bee moth may frequently be found on the pleiform seeking an office and a portion of the spoils. These worms must be destroyed, and to deter others from making an entry, a little fine salt sprinkled over the bottom is one of the best articles we know of—Bees are fond of salt which is death to worms.

With very little trouble hives may be weighed daily to ascertain their increase in honey and wax. A pretty good swarm will make three pounds per day by the week together when pure weather is good—thus in ten days they can lay up a store for the whole winter season.—*Boston Cultivator.*

The Peach Tree Worm.—The Western Farmer and Gardener gives the result of some experiments made to protect peach trees from the moth like worm which destroys them. Tansy and wormwood were planted nearly in contact with the body of the tree, and kept off the worm as effectually as tobacco, camphor, &c. protects clothes from the moth.

Canker Worms.—J. M. Gourgas, Esq. of Weston, assures us that he has destroyed every canker-worm that infested his trees by keeping his land in tillage where they was practicable, and by placing tan-bark or other loose matter about his trees which are scattered in his pastures. He feels confident that every farmer may entirely root out this pest by following a like course. There can be no doubt that frequent stirring of the earth about trees in the fall will have a *tendency* to disturb and destroy grubs which usually harbor there during winter, and if hogs or hens should be induced to frequent the trees, and root and scratch for worms, they would do more good than harm.

Mr. Gourgas is a native of Switzerland, and he has long taken an active interest in American agriculture.—*Boston Cultivator.*

Weeds. Wage an unceasing warfare with weeds in every form. They are continually increasing on most farms, and new ones are yearly added to the catalogue of nuisances. It is not too much to say that in many cases the annual profits of a farm are diminished from one-third to one-half by this cause alone. Thorough fallowing in the English method, is the best remedy for the thistle—cutting johnswort, and applying plaster to invigorate the other grasses, will check if not destroy this weed; the annuals, such as wild mustard, cockle, stem-root, &c., must be pulled by hand carefully before ripening their seeds; and the elder, life-everlasting, and others, must be cut up by the roots.—*Scientific.*

Hemp.—*Continued from page 47.*—The method of dew-rotting is that which is generally practised in Kentucky. The lint so spread is not so good for many purposes, and especially for rigging and ships, as when the plants have been rotted by immersion in water, or, as it is generally termed, water-rotted. The greater value, and consequently higher price of the article, prepared in the latter way, has induced more and more of our farmers every year to adopt it, and if that prejudice were subdued, which every American production unfortunately encounters when it is first introduced and comes in contact with a rival European commodity, I think it probable that in a few years we should be able to dispense altogether with foreign hemp. The obstacles which prevent the general practice of water rotting are, the want of water at the best season for the operation, which is the month of September; a repugnance to the change of an old habit; and a persuasion, which has some foundation, that handling the plants after their submersion in water during that month is injurious to health. The first and last of these obstacles would be removed by water rotting early in the winter, or in the spring. The only difference in the operation, performed at those seasons and in the month of September, would be, that the plants would have to remain longer in soak before they were sufficiently rotted.

"The plants are usually spread down to be dew-rotted from the middle of October to the middle of December. A farmer who has a large crop on hand puts them down or different times for his convenience in handling and dressing them. Autumnal rotting is more apt to give the lint a dark and unsightly color than winter rotting. The best ground to expose the plants upon his meadow or grass land, but they are not unfrequently spread over the same field on which they grow. The length of time they ought to remain exposed depends upon the degree of moisture and the temperature of the weather that prevails. In a very wet and warm spell, five or six weeks may be long enough. Whether they have been sufficiently rotted or not is determined by experiment. A handful is taken and broken by the hand or applied to the brake, when it can be easily ascertained, by the facility with which the lint can be detached from the stalk, if it be properly rotted. If the plants remain on the ground too long, the fibres lose some of their strength, though a few days longer than necessary, in cold weather, will not do any injury. If they are taken up too soon, that is, before the lint can be easily separated from the woody part of the stalk, it is harsh, and the process of breaking is difficult and troublesome. Snow-rotting, that is, when the plants, being spread out, remain long enough to rot, (which, however, requires a greater length of time,) bleaches the lint, improves the quality, and makes it nearly as valuable as if it had been water-rotted.

"After the operation of rotting is performed, the plants are again collected together, put in shocks or stacks, or, which is still better, put under a shed or some covering. When it is designed to break and dress them immediately, they are frequently set up against some neighboring fence. The best period for breaking and dressing is in the months of February and March, and the best sort of weather, frosty nights and clear thawing days. The brake cannot be used advantageously in wet or moist weather. It is almost invariably used in this state out of doors and without any cover; and in case its operation, the laborer often makes a large fire near it, which serves the double purpose of drying the plants and warming himself. It could not be used in damp weather in a house without a kiln or some other means of drying the stalks.

(To be continued.)

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

Butter.—If Illinois, and the West generally, is to be a great stock country, as is generally supposed, the products of the dairy merit much attention. Now is the commencement, it will be an easy matter to give our products a high standing in market, and with a little pains in the manufacture of butter, for instance, that sent from this section would be as eagerly sought as "Goshen butter." It is of vastly more importance to the farmers themselves, that their products in the distant market should bear a high price, and be known to be well made, than most of them suppose. When we begin to export largely of a product, our merchants will pay just such a price as they can obtain for it at New York, with the addition of transportation. And if our farmers manufacture their butter in such a manner, as that it shall be valuable to ship to foreign countries, of course to them will be the profit. It is one aim of this paper, and an important one too, to induce the farmers to stir each other up till perfection in their products shall be attained. Who will commence the work in the making of the butter?

Cheese Making.—The plan generally proposed by your correspondent, is to strain the milk in the tub over night, and warm it in the morning, carefully stirring in the cream. Mr A. F. Bill, in the October number of the New Genesee Farmer, says,—"In the morning take off the cream with a skimmer and put it in a vessel by itself; then warm the milk, or a part of it, over a slow fire till about blood heat; then pour in the cream, and stir it moderately till there are no particles to be seen floating upon the surface."

It seems to me evident, that when the cream is once separated from the milk, it can never be so thoroughly incorporated with it again, as to set the milk as soon as taken from the cow.

Our method is this. Immediately after the cows are milked at night, (and the quicker the operation is performed the better,) we strain it into the cheese tub and put in the rennet—as the milk when it first comes from the cow is in precisely the right temperature to set. If the rennet is good, and properly prepared, a large table spoonful is sufficient for a pailful of milk. The tub should then be covered with a cloth and allowed to stand undisturbed—in about 10 minutes it will coagulate. It is then carefully cut, the tub again covered and left to stand till morning. When the tub is wanted for the morning's milk, the night's curd is dipped into the cheese basket, or cheese sink, to drain, and the morning's milk strained into the same tub. The rennet is then put on, going through the same process as with the night's milk. When sufficiently drained, the two curds are ready to be put together, scalded and salted according to the discretion of the maker.

Those who have had the least experience in the management of milk, must know that warming it after it has once cooled, gives it a tendency to sour the quicker. Any person who will take the trouble to try the experiment, will find that curd made from milk warm from the cow, will keep *sweet* much longer than that which has been warmed over the fire; and, besides this, it saves the time and trouble of *skimming* and warming. Nothing will make a good cheese maker assume a belligerent attitude so quick, as to see the skimmer flourished over the cheese tub.

From a long experience in a moderate sized dairy, I am persuaded that in no way can so much, or cheese of so good quality be made, as to set the milk while warm from the cow.—*New Gen. Farmer.*

Milking.—The opinion is doubtless well founded that the quantity of milk given by a cow is determined *in part* by the mode of milking. Some persons will obtain a larger quantity than others. The rule is, that the more *gentle* and *quickly* one does the work, the greater will be the quantity obtained. And from this rule we are authorised to make the inference that generally, *women* can perform this labor *better than men*. There is scarcely room for doubt that a dozen cows would give more milk in the course of the season if milked by women than if milked by men. But whether the greater economy of appropriating female labor to this business, will be sufficient to stay that current of fashion which calls upon the farmer's wife and daughters to cut all acquaintance with the cows and other animals, is exceedingly doubtful. We wish that it might.

Some evidence of the effects of different milking was obtained a year or two since on the farm of one of my neighbors. As Jonathan was rather old and stiff, he was set to do the milking. This continued for weeks; that the quantity of milk obtained being less than the owner thought his cows ought to yield, he was induced to seek for the cause; and upon setting the other younger men to do the milking, he very soon obtained a quart per day more from each cow than before. I am not aware that there was any accurate measurement in this instance; and I intend only to say that the difference in the quantity of milk obtained was such that the milking was taken out of the stiff fingers of Jonathan and assigned to some that were more nimble.

The subject seems to relate to a trifling matter; but it being one of those labors which come round twice in a day, the trifle added to the trifle each night and morning, may amount to an important item in the course of a year.—*New Eng. Farmer.*

USEFUL RECIPES.

Saving Seed.—Every attentive observer will remark among the plants of almost every kind of crop some individual stalks are distinguished from the others by a greater degree of health or luxuriance, or produce vences, or nat ness, or some other peculiarity. A friend of mine remarked, some years ago, a particular stem of peas among his earliest crop, which came into flower and ripened long before the others. He marked this stem and saved the whole of its produce for seed. These came so much earlier as they had originally done. This produce was also saved for seed, and thus he obtained a particular kind of early peas, that came at least a week before the *best sort* he could buy in the shops, if sown at the same time. The Doctor relates facts similar to this respecting wheat and beans. The general idea he means to inculcate is obvious and extremely worthy attention.—*Dr Anderson's Recreations.*

Best Cement for joining Glass.—If the glass is not likely to be exposed to moisture, the pieces may be joined by a solution of equal parts of gum Arabic and loaf sugar in water; or if these are not at hand, the white of egg may answer nearly as well. But a strong water proof cement, that is equally transparent, may be made by digesting finely powdered gum copal, in thrice its weight of sulphuric ether, till it is dissolved. This solution may be applied to the edges of the broken glass, with a camel hair pencil, and the pieces must be put together immediately and pressed close till they adhere.

Best Cement for joining China.—Heat a piece of chalk to a full red heat in a fire; and while this is heating, take the white of an egg, and mix and beat together with it, one fourth its weight of powdered or scraped cheese, (such as is most void of cream or oily matter is preferable,) or the curd that is formed by adding vinegar to skimmed milk; take the chalk from the fire, and before it is cold reduce it to powder, and add as much of it to the mixture as will form a thick paste, and beat them anew all together, and use the composition immediately. When this is dry, it will resist in a great measure, either heat or moisture. A semi-transparent cement, suitable for china ware, may be made by gently boiling the flour of rice with water.—*N. Y. Mechanic.*

On Washing Newly Churned Butter.—We hope a large number of our dairy-women will this summer try the effect of washing their new butter in cold water in order to separate it entirely from the butter-milk. All who are not very positive that water is injurious to butter, will oblige us by trying one or two churnings and letting us know if it is not easier to wash away the sour matter when remains in the cavities of the lumps, than in work it out by hand or by means of a wooden shovel.

It is quite important that the cream, before churning should be neither too cool nor too warm. If it be too cool it is not easily churned into butter—if too warm a diminutive quantity is obtained, and it is so soft it is not fit for the market. An experienced hand will generally determine with sufficient accuracy when the cream is of a proper temperature, but all would proceed on surer ground if they should keep a thermometer for the purpose.—Such an instrument may be had for one or two dollars, and more than this sum is lost every season in many families for the want of one. From 60° to 65° is the proper temperature for churning, and if the churn room is nearly of this temperature the glass need not be inserted in the churn more than once or two commencement.

On commencing the operation the cream should be *very gently* agitated, otherwise we set it in a foam, and the labor of bringing the butter is doubled.—*Bost. Cul.*

How to Cook String Beans.—There is a way to cook this vegetable—a method always practiced at our house—by which it is very much improved both in appearance and flavor. The pods are split (not opened at the edges, but in an opposite direction) from end to end, and then cut into short pieces as in the usual way: they are then boiled in any suitable vessel separate from meat or other vegetables. A small quantity of pearlash or saleratus having been thrown into the water. When taken from the water, after having been sufficiently cooked, they are of a beautiful bright green color, and will be found much more tender and delicate than when cooked without the saleratus.—They are, of course, to be seasoned according to your own taste.—*N H Farm. Gaz.*

How to Cook Green Peas.—The common method of cooking this delicious vegetable, by boiling in water, is nearly destructive to its flavor, at least so says a lady who has sent us the following method of preparing them for the table, which, after experience, we must add is a great improvement;—"Place in the bottom of your sauce pan or boiler, several of the outside leaves of head salad—put your peas in the dish with two ounces of butter in proportion to half a peck of peas—cover the pan or boiler close, and place it over the fire—in thirty minutes they are ready for the table. They can either be seasoned in the pan or taken out. Water extracts nearly all the delicious quality of the green peas, and is as fatal to their flavor as it is destructive to a mad dog.—*Nats Era.*

We had a mess of peas cooked after this fashion yesterday; and we have no hesitation in recommending the above recipe to the favorable notice of all good housewives, who take pleasure in seeing their dinner come on the table in the best possible order. There is no mistake about it; the flavor of the peas is greatly improved.—*N. Hamp. Far. Gaz.*

Feeding Geese with Turnips.—An experiment has lately been tried of feeding geese with turnips, cut up fine, and put into a trough with water. The effect was that six geese, weighing only nine pounds each, when shut up, actually weighed twenty [twelve?] pounds each, after three weeks feeding with this food alone.—*Selected.*

Rhubarb Wine.—Let the stalks be at least of full growth, cut them in pieces into a pan, pour boiling water on them, and macerate till soft, but not into a pulp, let them stand till next day, strain and proceed as for gooseberry wine; with respect to proportions, about one-third more by weight than of gooseberries. It is an aperient, but mild. —*Mag. of Domestic Economy.*

Worm in the Head of Sheep.—John Cain, Esq., of Rutland, Vt., wishes some information "respecting the disease of sheep called the "Grub in the Head," whether there is any preventive; and whether there is any remedy after the attack."

The disease is doubtless caused by the sheep fly called *Œstrus ovis* depositing its eggs within the nostril of the sheep. These soon hatch and the larvæ find their way at once to the interior of the nose into the frontal sinews, where they remain till the following Spring. If in considerable numbers, they cause great distress and irritation, and not unfrequently death. The best preventive we have ever known, was to smear the sheep's nose with tar, and if during the summer the appearance or conduct of the animal indicated that the fly was present, (which may be known by their restless agitated manner,) let the operation be several times repeated. Perhaps a better way is to have troughs for the sheep, the bottom smeared with tar, and this frequently sprinkled with salt, as in this way the sheep will secure the benefit derived from the tar and its odor, without trouble. As to a "remedy." we give the following from Blacklock's celebrated Treatise on Sheep, but we have never had occasion to try the prescription, and cannot speak from experience of its value:—*Cultivator.*

"For the grub or worm, tobacco smoke is the only available remedy, and a very good one, being easily brought in contact with the worms, and when properly administered, certain in its effects. One person secures the sheep, holding the head in a convenient position, while another having half filled a pipe with tobacco, and kindled it in the usual manner, places one or two folds of a handkerchief over the opening of the bowl, then passes the tube a good way up the nostril, applies his mouth to the covered bowl, and blows vigorously through the covering. When this has been continued a few seconds, the pipe is withdrawn, and the operation repeated on the other nostril."

Renovation of the Peach Tree.—The editor of the New England Farmer says, that a gentleman residing in Cambridge, informs him that *charcoal* placed around the roots of the deceased stock, was serviceable. He immediately removed the soil from around the trunk of a sickly tree in his garden, supplied its place with charcoal, and was surprised at its sudden renovation, and subsequent rapidity of its growth, and the tenacity with which the fruit held on to the branches, and the unusual richness of its flavor when matured.

A certain Cure for Founder in Horses.—Take a large kettle of water and make it boil. Lead the horse to the kettle if he be able to walk; if not, take the water to the stable. Commence with a swab and wash the left fetlock before, then the right, then the fetlocks behind, then wash the legs in the same manner, then the shoulders and body, rub the horse dry and he will be well in a few hours! There is no danger of scalding the horse, if the above direction be pursued. The remedy is on the authority of one of the best farmers in this place, and is worth to every farmer double the price of his subscription to this paper.—*Jacksonville Illinoisan.*

Hoof bound in Horses.—M. E. Wood gives the following cure for this disease in horses:—"I first take off all the shoes and cut into the hoof so far up and down on each side where the nails will hold it secure when they are shod, as to weaken the hoof so that it will easily spread apart and give ease to the horse, as respects pain, (for I have no doubt they endure pain,) then turn them out if possible on a wet pasture, using them only on such work as they can do without shoes, which may be considerable on a farm if they are good for the draft. This I continue one summer, and then shoe as usual, and it has done cures for me and my neighbors. I am of the opinion that the cure consists very much in shifting the diet and habits of the horse. Bleeding in or near the hoof will take out inflammation and be of partial and immediate relief, but should the horse return to stabling the year round and grain, it would probably produce it again, he had better be placed and owned by a farmer, and have pot luck, as it is called."

Diarrhœa in Colts.—As soon as the disease is evident, the mare and colt must be taken from the pasture, if they were on the grass, and their treatment must be different, according to the degree of appetite retained by the colt; if he eats or sucks heartily, give it cow's milk, boiled with a little flour, and with warm injections of mullen, flax seed tea or slippery elm; if, on the contrary, the animal is without appetite, it is a sign that the evacuation is dangerous and ought to be checked, give something more than a quarter of an ounce of assafœtida diluted in one of the above teas, which he must be made to swallow milk-warm, besides which he must have injections morning and evening, until the disease seems to be checked, then suppress the evening remedies, and suppress them entirely as soon as the colt is evidently better. It is more prudent to keep the mare out of pasture and feed her on dry hay, &c. A careful attendant on the colt will best know when to continue the remedies or not. Mind that the mother's milk has a great influence on the colt.

The farmer who keeps a large stock ought to be provided with a syringe or clyster pipe, which may be well made in tin, with a long pipe, it should hold a gallon, and the injecting tube must terminate into a very smooth pewter top, well soldered in the tube, so as not to injure the intestines in which it must be inserted, the tube must be slightly bent, so as to secure the person who gives the injection from any accident that might happen if he stood immediately behind the animal; the clyster pipe is absolutely required in Diarrhœa, costiveness, suppression of urine, cholics, &c; the different injections that must then be given, bearing more immediately upon the causes of those diseases than any other remedies which require digestive power, and consequently more time to act are indispensable, besides their giving time for other medicines, if they do not prove sufficient, as is often the case. Injections made of any of the afore-mentioned ingredients, will immediately relieve the suppression of urine in the horse, by loosing and relaxing the neck of the bladder, the inflammation of which, if not soon relieved, would cause death, as soon as the animal has made water, his agitation and uneasiness cease. Not knowing the symptoms of this disease, it is often mistaken for a common cholic: many heating drugs are given to the horse, and augment the disease by closing the bladder by inflammation, and kill the animal. The use of the syringe is so necessary in those cases, that it cannot be too much insisted upon.

W. Mentelle.

—*Kentucky Farmer.*

Cure for Mildew.—I have seen several inquiries respecting the murrain in cattle, and being in possession of a recipe which in nine cases out of ten, has proved successful in curing the same, I herewith send to you, in hopes that if you give it publicity, it may be of some benefit to those who are yearly losing many of their cattle.

Recipe.—Give 1½ oz. pearlash, dissolved in 2 qts. of iron-water, (from blacksmith's trough,) If not better in 5 hours, give ½ an oz. more in 1 qt. water. The water should be warm. Give no drink but warm water, for two days. Give warm mash to eat.

The person from whom I got the receipe has cured a great many cattle in this vicinity, at one dollar per head, and asked $10 for the recipe. I take this mode of making it as public as possible.—*New Gen. Farmer.*

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

M. P. Wilder, Esq., *President of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.*

Sir,—Having discovered a cheap and effectual mode of destroying the *Rose Slug*, I wish to become a competitor for the premium offered by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. After very many satisfactory experiments with the following substance, I am convinced it will destroy the above insect, in either of the states in which it appears on the plant, as the fly, when it is laying its eggs, or as the slug, when it is committing its depredations on the foliage.

Whale Oil Soap, *dissolved at the rate of five pounds to fifteen gallons of water.* I have used it stronger without injury to the plants, but find the above mixture effectual in the destruction of the insect. As I find, from experiments, there is a difference in the strength of the soap, it will be better for persons using it to try it diluted as above, and if it does not kill the insect, add a little more soap, with caution. In corresponding with Messrs. Downer, Austin & Co. on the difference in its appearance, they say—"Whale Oil Soap varies much in its relative strength, the article not being made as soap, but being formed in our process of bleeching oil. When it is of very sharp taste and dark appearance, the alkali predominates, and when light colored and flat taste, the grease predominates." The former I have generally used, but have used the light colored, and find it equally effectual, but requiring a little more soap—say two pounds to thirteen gallons of water.

Mode of preparation.—Take whatever quantity of soap you wish to prepare, and dissolve it in boiling water, about one quart to a pound, in this way strain it through a fine wire or hair sieve, which takes out the dirt, and prevents its stopping the valves of the engine, or the nose of the syringe; then add cold water to make it the proper strength; apply it to the rose bush with a hand engine or syringe, with as much force as practicable, and be sure that every part of the leaves is well saturated with the liquid. What falls to the ground in application, will do good in destroying the worms and enriching the soil, and from its trifling cost, it can be used with profusion. A bagshead of 136 gallons costs forty-five cents—not quite four mills per gallon. Early in the morning, or in the evening, is the proper time to apply it to the plants.

As there are many other troublesome and destructive insects the above preparation will destroy, as effectually as the rose slug, it may be of benefit to the community to know the different kinds upon which I have tried it with success.

The Tarips, often called the Vine Fretter, a small, light colored or spotted fly, quick in motion, which in some places are making the rose bush nearly as bad in appearance as the effects of the slug. *Aphis*, or Plant Louse, under the name of green or brown fly, an insect not quick in motion, very abundant on, and destructive to, the young shoots of the Rose, the Peach tree, and many other plants. The *Black Flu*, a very troublesome and destructive insect, that infests the young shoots of the Cherry and Snow-Ball tree. I have never known any positive cure for the effects of this insect until this time. Two varieties of insects that are destructive to, and very much disfigure Evergreens, the Balsam or Balm of Gilead Fir in particular, one an Aphis, the other very much like the rose slug. *The Acarus*, or red spider, that well known pest to gardeners.

The Disease Mildew on the Gooseberry, Peach, Grape Vine, &c. &c., is checked and entirely destroyed by a weak dressing of the solution.

The above insects are generally all destroyed by one application, if properly applied to all parts of the foliage. The eggs of most insects continue to hatch in rotation, during their season. To keep the plants perfectly clean, it will be necessary to dress them two or three times.

The Canker Worm.—As the trees on this place are not troubled with this worm, I have not had an opportunity of trying experiments by dressing the trees, but have collected the worms, which are killed by being touched with the liquid. The expense of labor and engines for dressing large trees, to be effectual, may be more than the application if it will warrant; but I think by saturating the ground under the trees with the liquid, about the time the insect changes from the chrysalis state and ascends the trees, will destroy them; or, when the moth is on the tree, before laying its eggs, they may be destroyed without much labor; in either case, the mixture may be applied much stronger than when it comes in contact with the foliage. Laying it on the trunk and branches of the tree, at the consistency of thick paint, destroys the brown, scaly insect on the bark, and gives the tree a smooth, glossy, and healthy appearance.

I remain, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

DAVID HAGGERSTON.

Watertown, June 10th, 1841.

Spring Materials for Hedging.—In reply to a correspondent, the new Genesee Farmer gives the following remarks;

"In Cayuga county we have seen the English thorn (*Cratægus oxyacantha*) in two places, six or eight miles apart, and in both it was suffering from *fire-blight*. In Ontario county also, a correspondent of the (Old) Genesee Farmer says, "where the English thorn was tried, that part of the hedge which was clipped [as all hedges ought to be] was mostly destroyed by a small snow white insect, with which it was in many places literally covered." On the contrary in Niagara county, we have seen hedges of the English thorn that appeared to be healthy; but we should be unwilling to employ much labor on this *exotic*. Many years ago, in the town of East Hampton on Long Island, nearly two hundred miles of this kind of hedge had been planted; but it all died. Writers in that vicinity ascribed their loss to a fly that deposited its eggs through the bark, and to a worm that preyed upon the twigs.

"In the southeastern part of Pennsylvania, we have seen many miles of hedges made of the Washington or Potowmac thorn (*Cratægus coccinea.*) The seeds appear to grow as freely as those of the pear or apple. A box containing a parcel of them for us, had been detained over winter on the canal; and when it arrived in the spring, dozens of the roots had penetrated the cloth that contained them, sticking through it on every side like the spines of a hedge hog.

"This thorn however, though so easily propagated, is subject to a malady that greatly impairs its beauty, and hereafter may prove ruinous. In particular neighborhoods the leaves become spotted with yellow. We have not understood that any of the hedges have perished from this cause; but we had a crab tree (*Pyrus coronaria*) which died last season, after suffering several years with spotted leaves of the same kind.

"While hedges of the Washington thorn were discolored in this manner, we have seen hedges of the New Castle thorn (*Cratægus crus-galli*) on the same farm and closely adjoining, in perfect health and greenness. No dangerous insect is known to attack it, and farmers who have planted miles of thorn hedge, decidely prefer it to all other sorts.

"The seeds however, are much more difficult to germinate. We have seen them treated in the following manner; and we have understood with uniform success. A small trench was cut on the north side of a building directly under the eaves. Into this, the haws, mixed with sand, were deposited in autumn; and as they received in this shaded place, the droppings of every shower, they were kept always moist through two winters and one summer. After softening in this manner for eighteen months, they were removed to the seed bed.

"Many other shrubs have been recommended for hedges, such as the Red Cedar, Osage Orange, &c. With E. Heisey of Derby, Massachusetts, both the English thorn and the Honey Locust were entire failures; but with the Sea Buck thorn (*Rhamnus cathartica.*) he was completely successful. A part of the Buck thorn however, like the Honey Locust and *Crataegus punctata*, have no thorns on them. We raised hundreds and never saw a thorn on one of the kind; but we have lately procured seed which may do better."

Mr. Leavitt's Memorial.—The memorial to Congress, prepared by Mr. Joshua Leavitt with much research, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture in the Senate, Feb. 27th, 1841, would be interesting to many of our readers; as it so fully explains the interests of wheat growers in the U. S. and shows how they are affected by the corn laws of England. The object of the memorial was to induce Congress to adopt measures that would lead to the modification of the regulations of other governments respecting wheat, and open a market for our surplus. The movement in England relative to their corn laws, gives increased interest to this question at this time; and we have hoped from number to number to be able to insert the memorial entire; for many of our readers, unacquainted with the minutiæ of the question would be glad of the information. But we can only give a few extracts. The figures in brackets refer to explanatory notes and tables which we have not room for.

"Wheat flour—from its value, its lightness of freight, capability of preservation, and adaptedness to the wants of different countries, as well as the natural indications of the soil and the abundance of water power, either in that country or along the lines of communication with the seaboard;—wheat flour must be the principal reliance of the northwest for foreign export, and for the means of paying for articles of necessity or comfort brought from abroad. The more extended introduction of this staple into our foreign trade would not only increase the actual commerce and revenue to that extent, but would tend to relieve our general monetary interests from the severity of the fluctuations arising from the present almost exclusive reliance upon a single staple. But the most advantageous foreign markets for wheat are grievously obstructed, and rendered so uncertain and fluctuating, as to be nearly valueless to the American Farmer, by the corn laws of Great Britain and France.

"The British corn law, as settled in 1828, by the act of 9 Geo. IV, c. 60, is one of the most ingeniously contrived schemes that can well be imagined, calculated to injure the grain-growing interests of other countries, and the grain consuming portion of its own people, without, it is believed, a corresponding advantage in the agricultural interest, for whose benefit it was intended. The variable scale of duties, rising as the price of grain falls, and falling as the price rises, is but little understood in this country. The "general average," as it is called, is declared every Thursday, at the exchequer; and is obtained by first finding the average of all the grains sold during the week ending on the preceding Saturday, at 150 of the principal towns and markets, and then taking an average of this with the five last preceding general averages; and this last is the declared or general average for that week. When the declared average of wheat is 73s or upwards per quarter of 8 bushels, the duty is 1s.; and when the price is 52s. or under, the duty is 34s 8d.; the intermediate duties being graduated by a scale or tariff. (11, 12.) Wheat and flour may be stored under bond for any length of time without paying duties, and re-exported at pleasure." * * *

"The commercial effect of this system has been to encourage speculation. The moment a deficiency appears in the slightest degree probable, the grain dealers naturally withhold their stock on hand from the market; orders are sent to the continent for grain, to be imported in bond, to be entered as soon as the fall of duties will answer; prices are pushed up by all the arts of trade; and as soon as the duty sinks to the desired rates, (say 6s. 8d.,) the whole stock in bond is entered for consumption, and thus added to the general stock; and if the deficiency proves imaginary, or small, prices fall as rapidly as they rose before, the duty runs up again, and the speculators have received the whole benefit. Thus a gambling character is imparted to trade, as detrimental to commercial morals as to the general prosperity."

* * * * *

"The question, where Great Britain is to look for supplies of wheat to meet either the occasional though frequent deficiencies of her harvests, arising from her uncertain climate; or the regular demand, not now very distant, caused by the increase of population beyond production, is one already exciting the attention of her statesmen and political economists. * * *

* * * The six northwestern states of this Union, with their present products, consumption of goods, and capability of increase, exactly meet the exigency. The examinations made by the persons employed last year in taking the census, show that the product of wheat in those States, excluding Wisconsin, in the year 1839, was 25,211,607 bushels, equal to 8 6 bushels to each inhabitant; of Indian corn, 87,620,868 bushels, or 29 8 to each inhabitant; of other kinds of grain, 29,735,202 bushels, or 10 to each inhabitant; and the total of all kinds of grain was 48 bushels to each inhabitant. There can be no doubt that the products of 1840 was very much greater than this; but there are no means of ascertaining the extent of the increase. In some extensive sections it has been estimated at one-fourth, and even one-third. The wheat crop of the whole United States, (excepting North Carolina and Kentucky,) was 75,995,787 bushels, or 5 bushels to each person; and of Indian corn, the crop was 301,947,658 bushels, or 20 bushels to each person. (17.)"

* * * * *

"On the other hand, let it be supposed for a moment, that the landholders of England would be satisfied with a fixed and moderate duty, in addition to the protection afforded by the cost of freight and importation, now amounting to 30 per cent. of the cost proceeds. There would then be a constant market for wheat in England, to which the uncommonly uniform climate of the North West would furnish a constant and full supply: and the whole return would be required in British manufactured goods, generally of the description that yield the greatest profit. Immediately, orders would go from this country to set every wheel, and spindle, and hammer in motion. Immediately, the state stocks would rise, because the interest would be secured, with a certainty that the public works would be completed and rendered productive. The manufacturing industry of England, and the agricultural industry of the North West, would be stimulated to the highest productiveness, by the best of all encouragements—the hope of a fair reward. The great cotton staple, too, would feel the benefit of a new and healthy impulse given to trade. The public works would be finished, and the lines of communication now open would be thronged with freight. New York would abolish the duty on salt, for the sake of securing to her own enlarged canal the transportation of the produce from the Ohio, the Maumee, the Wabash, the Illinois, and the Wisconsin canals, now strongly tending in that direction."

CULTURE OF TOBACCO, *continued from page 38.*—I will suppose the crop *laid by*, and that the next stage has arrived: that is the *topping* of it. There are two opinions about which is the best time to top. One opinion is, that the tobacco will cure a better color if the plants are permitted to get out in full blossom before they are *topped*. The other opinion is, that tobacco should be *topped* as soon as it shows an inclination to flower, or in the language of planters as soon as it *buttons*. I think it should be always topped as soon as it shows a button, for the growth of the top takes from the plant of tobacco so much that would have went to it had it been topped early. The same remark applies to succors that grow between the leaf and stalk. They should be taken out early; that is, they should not be permitted to grow large, for they take away much from the leaf which at this time is making its principal growth.

After a crop of tobacco is *laid by*, that is, after it is ploughed and hoed enough, there are from three to five weeks before it is ripe and ready to go to the house.—During this time, a planter should make all the necessary preparation for *housing*. If he intends to cure his tobacco with fire, his wood should be cut and hauled to his barns. If he has not got tobacco sticks enough to hang all his crop, they also should be prepared. If he intends curing without fire, his scaffolds should be put up around his barns. In short, every thing that will be wanted, should be in its place before he commences housing, for after he gets fully to cutting his tobacco, he will have enough to do, without having to do what might have been done before.

I will in this place make some remarks on curing of tobacco. *Firing*—that is, making fires in the barn, under the tobacco, after it is *hung*—is the surest way to cure fine tobacco. Tobacco that is intended to be *fired*, should be hung in the house as quick as can be after it is cut. The house should be filled in a day, if possible, and fires put in immediately. The quantity of heat from fires during the different stages of curing a house of tobacco, should be regulated by the state of the weather.—When fires are first put in a house, under tobacco just hung in, they should not be large, especially if the weather is warm and dry. For the first, second, and third day, the heat should be such as will yellow the tobacco without sweating of it. After this time, the fires should be larger, so as to keep the tobacco as it cures dry. In dry warm weather, very little fire under tobacco will cure it best. In wet or cool weather, of course, more heat from fires is necessary. Tobacco cures of a yellow color, when managed in this way, if the fires are kept under it from seven to eight days. It is a very good way, also, in firing of tobacco, to let it hang in the house until it yellows by the air, before fire is put under it: then three or four days firing will answer. But the tobacco is not likely to cure yellow—it will, if properly managed, cure what is called a fine red.

After all that may be said about firing of tobacco, I would not recommend it only at particular times, unless barns could be fixed with furnaces as as to carry off the sparks and smoke, so as to prevent the barn from taking fire. I am apprehensive that even furnaces would not be perfectly safe; for there would be some danger even from having fire in the barn; and the pipes that would carry off the smoke and sparks, might, by passing through the tobacco, as well as the barn, communicate fire to some part of it.

The loss of a barn with its contents, is a heavy one. It takes also a great deal of wood to fire a barn of tobacco: and this on plantations where fuel is scarce, is of considerable consequence. Even if wood is plenty, it takes some labor to cut and haul it. I have for several years past cured my tobacco without putting a particle of fire near it; and I have found it to be nearly, if not quite as fine, as if it had been *fired*. Tobacco of good color, cured without fire, is worth more money in a foreign market, from the circumstance of its not being smoked by the firing process.

Tobacco that is to be cured without fire, should never be put in the house without its being hung out of doors, after it is cut, for several days. There should be erected around each barn a *scaffold*.—The tobacco, as it is *cut* and *stacked*, should be hung on the scaffold, and if there should be no appearance of rain, it may remain there for five or six days before it is put in the house. Tobacco, before it begins to cure on a scaffold, is not injured by rain; and after it begins to cure, a rain that lasts a short time, does not injure it. It is rain that lasts two or three days that injures tobacco hung on a scaffold.

A scaffold is constructed by burying in the ground about two feet, forks set up perpendicularly, about ten feet apart from each other; in which poles are put nearly the distance of a common fence rail from each other.—Fence rails are thus put across from one pole to another, leaving a space of four feet between each rail. These are what are called *tiers*. A scaffold should not be very high, for if it is, the lower leaves of the tobacco will become tarnished from the winds. A scaffold should be of such a height as to leave the ends of the tobacco leaves from one to two feet from the ground. It is not so well to erect scaffolds on the north or north-west part of a barn. They should always be made on the warmest sides of the barn. A planter can always get his forks for his scaffolds in the winter season, whilst cutting wood and rail stuff. Having said this much about scaffolds, I now return to the curing and housing of tobacco.

A person unacquainted with scaffolding of tobacco would suppose that there could not be so much put in a barn in this way, as there could be by *firing*. It would be entirely a mistake. There can be as much tobacco cured in a barn by scaffolding as there can be by *firing*. It is true, it could not be done so quickly; yet in an ordinary housing season, there is ample time to do it.

A planter who has several barns, when scaffolding tobacco, should manage so as to be able to take into the house a part of a scaffold of tobacco, every day, except rainy ones, during the season. When tobacco is being carried in the barn from the scaffold, the lower part of the barn should be hung full; and if that part of the barn will hold all that is at that time to be taken from the scaffold, it should be left there until the space is wanted for more tobacco from the scaffold. By this means, the tobacco may have the advantage of several days in the barn, before it is finally hung away. The best time of the day to take tobacco in the barn, from the scaffold, is late in the evening. It should be handled very carefully, so as not to crumble the cured leaves. Tobacco should not, whenever it can be avoided, be carried in the barn from the scaffold, while wet with dew. This can always be avoided, except when there is an appearance of rain.

When about to fill a barn with tobacco that has been scaffolded, the tobacco should be hung so as to leave *fire holes*; for if, about this time, there should come a spell of wet weather, the tobacco can have fires put under it, and be kept from being injured by the weather. However, tobacco that has been well killed by being scaffolded, will not injure in wet weather near as soon as a person might suppose. It is only in long spells of warm wet weather that *firing* is necessary for tobacco that has been scaffolded. There are only two cases in which I would recommend *firing* of tobacco.—One is in the instance just mentioned. The other is when a crop of tobacco, from untoward circumstances, ripens, or is not fit to be cut until late in the season for housing. Fires, by curing the tobacco quickly, prevents it from freezing in the house, which the lower leaves are apt to do, if left to cure by the air, when housed late in the season. Sometimes planters fire for want of house-room; that is, they cannot wait for their tobacco to cure by the air. I have always thought it best to have a sufficient number of barns. A planter had better build two barns than to have one burnt down.

I will here make some remarks on the construction of tobacco houses. Tight houses will not cure tobacco as well as moderately open ones. Even when tobacco is cured by fires, a very tight house is not the best. There is a large quantity of moisture in a house of mounted tobacco—so there must be some opening for it to escape.—I have seen barns where the main building was shedded all around with no other covering except the roofs of the main building and sheds—that is, no weather boarding put on any part of it, except the roofs. Barns of this construction certainly cure tobacco best when there are no long spells of wet weather; for these kind of barns cannot be fired in. It is also liable to be injured, if not stripped shortly after it is cured. I have also seen barns of this construction with the sheds partially weather-boarded by putting up narrow planks around the sheds two or three inches apart. This is certainly some security against wet weather, yet the tobacco is not sufficiently secured against it. Those who have the timber, can build no kind of barns that will answer better for tobacco than the old fashioned, barns built of oak boards and shingles: they let in sufficient air when it is curing, and keep out dampair after it is cured. Barns, when built with plank and shingles, always cure tobacco best when the plank is put on with one end upwards, though the frames of barns weather boarded in this way, will not last as long as when the plank is put on horizontally. The best way, probably, to build a barn to suit all times, and all kinds of weather, would be to have all the plank intended for weather boarding, made into large doors, and well hung with good hinges, so that when the tobacco wanted air, all the doors could be opened—when damp air would injure it, the doors could be shut. A barn constructed after this manner, would cost a little more money for hinges for the doors, and latches for fastening of them. I have seen one built after this manner, which answered very well until it was burnt down. The doors could reach only to the eaves of the house, if so far, of course, the other parts of the building must be weather boarded in the usual manner.

(To be continued.)

NOTES FROM OUR MEMORANDUM BOOK.

WILD CHESS.—Mr. A. B. Wynkoop, of Lake co., showed us some wild chess, which some have cut for hay at the rate of two tons to the acre. When cultivated, the berry is increased and made like chess in Wheat.

FOWL-MEADOW GRASS.—Mr. Wynkoop showed us a few roots North of Libertyville, a piece of indigenous fowl-meadow grass—says it grows very luxuriantly, and that he knows of other pieces like it. Mr. D. J. Townsend, near Bristol, Kendal co., told us, some time since, that we might safely recommend fowl-meadow for cultivation in all low and marshy places—that he had proven it; and it be indigenous, no better evidence is wanted of its value to a Western farmer.

A NEW POLE FOR BEANS.—In the garden of Hon. R. H. Deming, of Southport, we observed one sunflower growing in each hill of pole beans. It is a good idea; all the trouble of poling beans saved, and at the same time, raising a valuable food for poultry.

WINTER AND BUCK WHEAT SOWN TOGETHER.—Mr. Wade, of Racine co., W. T., says that some farmers have sown early in the season, winter and buck wheat together, reaping the buck wheat in the fall. This would seem to be a good plan on our prairies; for if the stubble of the buck wheat were left long, it would afford considerable protection to the roots of the winter wheat and in a great measure, prevent their being uncovered by the heavy winds; which causes so much of our wheat to winter kill. It would also give something to fasten the snow, and prevent its being blown away from around the roots.

EXTRACTS AND COMMENTS,

A GOOD EXAMPLE—IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE—NOTICE FOR THE OCT. FAIR—PREMIUM FOR A PLOUGH.

We do not know as *all* the following communication was intended for publication. We trust the author will excuse us for adding the proper heading, and publishing it entire.

Dear Sir,—I have obtained a few additional subscribers to the paper. I have taken this course, I say, "if you have no money I will take grain and pay your subscription;" I think that I can market it in town. I have taken that course to remove all objection to subscribing, for none are without grain. It will make me some additional trouble, but that I don't mind if I can obtain subscribers to the paper. You have given me a hard stent, i. e. 100. I will get what I can; for I am enlisted in the cause of agriculture, not for a specified number of days or years, but for life.

What cannot agriculture do? It can make the country rich, whilst the subject of a bank agitates all classes; if we farmers will agitate the banks of earth properly, it will quiet the agitation, as far as we are concerned, about *Rag Banks*. Mother earth pays all drafts made upon her this year, with 50 per cent. added—unless it is the potatoe draft.

Please inform all the good people who have stock which they intend to exhibit at the U. A. B. Fair and Cattle Show, next month, that the citizens of this region will provide proper pens for all the stock that may be exhibited then and there; and I would say to all who have good stock, if they do not expect to get the premium, come and show it and see what is to be seen.

I wish you to give notice that I will give a premium of $5 for a cross plough, made within the limits of the Union Agricultural Society, that will scour in our soil, to be left to the Committee on Fairs.

I write in haste. Respectfully yours.
LEWIS ELLSWORTH.
Naperville, Ill.

TOMATO FIGS.

PATENT OFFICE, July 10, 1841.

DEAR SIR—The medicinal qualities of tomatoes have greatly increased their cultivation, and every new preparation of the article is deserving consideration. A sample of "tomato figs" has just been deposited at the Patent Office, of a very superior quality. From the taste I should suppose all the good qualities of the fruit are retained. In appearance, the drum of tomatoes resembles one of figs so nearly, that they might easily be mistaken for the same.

The sample is deposited by Mrs Steiger of this city, and the recipe transmitted with it is enclosed for publication. It is deeply to be regretted that since the periodicals of the day are open to communications, that so many valuable improvements are lost to the world, barely for the want of publicity. Others may have dried the tomatoes with a recipe, however less successful.

Very respectfully,
H. L. ELLSWORTH.

Hon. J. S. Skinner.

RECIPE.—Take six pounds of sugar to one peck (or 16 lbs.) of the fruit. Scald and remove the skin of the fruit in the usual way. Cook them over a fire, their own juice being sufficient without the addition of water, until the sugar penetrates and they are clarified. They are then taken out, spread on dishes, flattened and dried in the sun. A small quantity of the syrup should be occasionally sprinkled over them whilst drying, after which, pack them down in boxes, treating each layer with powdered sugar. The syrup is afterwards concentrated and bottled for use. They keep well from year to year, and retain surprisingly their flavor, which is nearly that of the best quality of fresh figs. The pear-shaped or single tomatoes answer the purpose best. Ordinary brown sugar may be used, a large portion of which is retained in the syrup.—*American Farmer.*

THE MARKET.

We have omitted the Prices Current this month, as our paper is so much behind the time. The price of Wheat has varied very much since we issued the last number, having been up as high as nine shillings, and now down to eighty cents.

Immense quantities have been sold here, and sent off to the East, but the facilities for shipping it are not equal to the supply. It is consequently accumulating here, and the price of freight rising—in proportion to the demand for vessels. It is now 22 cents per bushel to Buffalo.

There has also been a depression of prices in the Eastern market. All these causes combined will keep Wheat down here, below what it has been; though whether it will fall or rise from present prices, must of course depend upon the price in Eastern markets.

Corn is worth 37½; Oats, 18½; Potatoes, 18½; Butter, 12½; Salt, from $2 25 to $3; Dried Apples, $1 to $1 25; Lumber, $8 to $16. Dry Goods and Groceries are plenty.

September 20, 1841.

STOVES FOR SALE.

A RAILWAY COOK STOVE, with Copper Furniture, complete.
A LARGE FRANKLIN STOVE.
A WILSON COOK STOVE.

They have all been used some, and will be sold for Cash or Produce.

J. S. & T. WRIGHT.

LUMBER FOR SALE.

AN Assortment of Seasoned Lumber, at market prices.

J. S. & T. WRIGHT.

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

FOR sale by the subscriber, a few full blooded Berkshire Sow Pigs, and one Boar Pig. The Sow was of the stock of the late Judge Buel, and they got by Black Hawk.

JNO. S. WRIGHT.

Chicago, 29 Aug. 1841

I HAVE procured the superior blooded Short-Horn Bull,

BULWER,

Of Dr. Samuel D. Martin, of Clarke County, Kentucky, and will permit him to serve a few Cows at $10 each, at my residence, 12 miles East of Pinkneyville, and 3½ miles from the road leading from Shawneetown to St. Louis.

PEDIGREE OF BULWER.

He was bred by Dr S D Martin, calved 21st of May, 1838, and was got by Rifleman (2532) dam Desdemona 2d,* bred by Col Powel, by Bertram, (1716,) grandam Zulinda bred by Col Powel, by Malcolm, (1190,) g grandam Desdemona, bred by Mr Whitaker, of England, and imported into the United States by Col Powel, by Frederick, (1060); g g grandam Delia, bred by Mr Whitaker, by Clareland, (146); g g g grandam Red Daisy,† bred by Mr Hustler, by Major, (308); g g g g grandam Strawberry by Windsor, (698); g g g g g grandam Old Daisy, bred by Charles Culling, by Favourite, (252); g g g g g g grandam by Punch, (531); g g g g g g g grandam by Hubback, (319)

* Desdemona 2d, the mother of Bulwer, gave 32 quarts of milk a day. Dr. Martin refused fifteen hundred dollars for Desdemona 2d.

The ball of Rifleman, the sire of Bulwar, was sold by Dr Martin to J G Taylor for seven hundred and fifty dollars.

† Red Daisy gave 32 quarts of milk a day.—Mr Hostler refused an offer of four hundred guineas for her.

For further particulars concerning the milking qualities of his ancestry, see extended pedigree of his father Rifleman, and his brother Bertram 4th.

I have also nine thorough bred Cows, all bred by Dr Martin, which I am breeding to Bulwer, and shall have several Bull Calves for sale this fall.

I can supply the farmers with the full blooded Durham stock at all times, as fine as can be bought in the United States, with undoubted pedigrees; (this is easily understood by referring to the English Herd-book, or the Kentucky Stock-book,) in place of travailing into Ohio, New York or Kentucky.

Come and examine my stock.

G. W. FAGG.

Poplar Grove, Perry co., Ill.
May 18, 1841.



BERKSHIRES.

THE above portrait was originally taken for the celebrated Sow MAXIMA, the largest in the U. S. owned by Mr. Lossing, of Albany, N. Y., she has recently been sold for $300, to Mr Corll of Kentucky, where *it is said*, the Berkshires are left entirely in the shade by the Woburn and Irish Graziers.

E. A. Mulford, of Roanoke Farm, 9 miles north of Chicago, has a Sow (Dido) a pig of Maximas, which bids fair to equal her dam in size, and of which, the above cut is so perfect a likeness, he considers it impossible for a better to be taken, his stock at present consists of four Sows and two Boars: pure in blood and unrelated; persons desirous to obtain pigs can be accommodated, at Eastern prices, raged and delivered in Chicago, if application is made soon.

August 25th, 1841.

The Union Agriculturist AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

VOL. I. CHICAGO, AUGUST, 1841. NO. 8

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, EDITED BY THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, THE ORGAN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TERMS.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance.* Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid.* Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1,50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance.* Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

THE PRAIRIES.

BY WM. CULLEN BRYANT.

These are the Gardens of the Desert, these
The unshorn fields, boundless and beautiful,
For which the speech of England has no name—
The Prairies I behold them for the first,
And my heart swells, while the dilated sight
Takes in the encircling vastness. Lo! they stretch
In airy undulations, far away,
As if the ocean, in his gentlest swell,
Stood still, with all his rounded billows fixed,
And motionless for ever.—Motionless?—
No—they are all unchained again. The clouds
Sweep over with their shadows, and, beneath,
The surface rolls and fluctuates to the eye:
Dark hollows seem to glide along, and chase
The sunny ridges. Breezes of the South!
Who toss the golden and the flame-like flowers,
And pass the prairie-hawk that, poised on high,
Flaps his broad wings, yet moves not—ye have played
Among the palms of Mexico and vines
Of Texas, and have crisped the limpid brooks
That from the fountains of Sonora glide
Into the calm Pacific—have ye fanned
A nobler or a lovelier scene than this?
Man hath no part in all this glorious work:
The hand that built the firmament hath heaved
And smoothed these verdant swells, and sown their slopes
With herbage, planted them with island groves,
And hedged them round with forests. Fitting floor
For this magnificent temple of the sky—
With flowers, whose glory and whose multitude
Rival the constellations! The great heavens
Seem to stoop down upon the scene in love.—
A nearer vault, and of a tenderer blue,
Than that which bends above the eastern hills.
As o'er the verdant waste I guide my steed,
Among the high rank grass that sweeps his sides,
The hollow beating of his footstep seems
A sacrilegious sound. I think of those
Upon whose rest he tramples. Are they here—
The dead of other days?—and did the dust
Of these fair solitudes once stir with life
And burn with passion? Let the mighty mounds
That overlook the rivers, or that rise
In the dim forest crowded with old oaks,
Answer. A race, that long has passed away,
Built them;—a disciplined and populous race
Heaped, with long toil, the earth, while yet the Greeks
Were hewing the Pentelic quarries and
Of Asia's mimic war, and reared on its rock
The glittering Parthenon? These ample fields
Nourished their harvests, here their herds were fed,
When haply by their sides the bison lowed,
And bowed his mane's shoulder to the yoke.
All day this desert murmured with their toils,
Till twilight blushed and lovers walked, and wooed
In a forgotten language, and old tunes,
From instruments of unremembered form,
Gave the soft winds a voice. The red man came—
The roaming hunter tribes warlike and fierce,
And the mound-builders vanished from the earth.
The solitude of centuries untold
Has settled where they dwelt. The prairie wolf
Hunts in their meadows, and his fresh-dug den
Yawns by my path. The gopher mines the ground
Where stood their swarming cities. All is gone—
All—save the piles of earth that hold their bones—
The platforms where they worshipped unknown gods—
The barriers which they builded from the soil
To keep the foe at bay—till o'er the walls
The wild besiegerers broke, and, one by one,
The strongholds of the plain were forced, and heaped
With corpses. The brown vultures of the wood
Flocked to those vast uncovered sepulchres,
And sat, unscared and silent, at their feast.
Lone as a solitary fugitive,
Lurking in marsh and forest, till the sense
Of desolation and of fear became
Bitterer than death, yielded himself to die.
Man's better nature triumphed. Kindly words
Welcomed and soothed him; the rude conquerors
Seated the captive with their chiefs; he chose
A bride among their maidens, and at length
Seemed to forget,—yet ne'er forgot,—the wife
Of his first love, and her unnoticed little ones
Butchered, amid their shrieks, with all his race.
Thus change the forms of being. Thus arise
Races of living things, glorious in strength,
And perish, as the quickening breath of God
Fills them, or is withdrawn. The red man too—
Has left the blooming wilds he ranged so long
And, nearer to the Rocky Mountains, sought
A wilder hunting-ground. The beaver builds
No longer by these streams, but far away,
On waters whose blue surface ne'er gave back
The white man's face—among Missouri's springs,
And pools whose issues swell the Oregan,
He rears his little Venice. In these plains
The bison feeds no more. Twice twenty leagues
Beyond remotest smoke of hunter's camp,
Roams the majestic brute, in herds that shake
The earth with thundering steps—yet here I meet
His ancient footprints stamped beside the pool.
Still this great solitude is quick with life.
Myriads of insects, gaudy as the flowers
They flutter over, gentle quadrupeds,
And birds, that scarce had learned the fear of man,
Are here, and sliding reptiles of the ground,
Startlingly beautiful. The graceful deer
Bounds to the wood at my approach. The bee,
A more adventurous colonist than man,
With whom he came across the eastern deep,
Fills the savannas with his murmurings,
And hides his sweets, as in the golden age,
Within the hollow oak. I listen long
To his domestic hum, and think I hear
The sound of that advancing multitude
Which soon shall fill these deserts. From the ground
Comes up the laugh of children, the soft voice
Of maidens, and the sweet and solemn hymn
Of Sabbath worshippers. The low of herds
Blends with the rustling of the heavy grain
Over the dark brown furrows. All at once
A fresher wind sweeps by, and breaks my dream,
And I am in the wilderness alone.

FAIRS.

This number of the paper contains notices of several Fairs to be held in this State this fall. There will be others which we have not noticed.

The farmers of Illinois are waking up, a spirit of improvement is among them which will not soon be laid.

It is to be hoped that by another year every county will have an Agricultural Society organized, and a day set apart for an annual fair; when *farmers* may meet, and become acquainted with one another, & with the improvements which each are making, in the science on which depends their individual prosperity, and the prosperity of all. These meetings are calculated to excite a commendable pride, and desire for information and improvement;—and we find the science of agriculture most advanced where Agricultural Societies have been longest established, and the annual fairs most regularly held.

TO OUR READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.—You will see in this, and every number of the paper, communications, asking information on various subjects from *brother farmers,* (who alone can give the right answers). If any of you find a query, direct or *implied,*—for the evident lack of knowledge on any subject should be considered a request for information to those who can impart it—will you have done your whole duty to yourself, to your *brother,* and to the cause in which you are engaged, if you excuse yourself by saying some one else more capable will answer it if I do not?

Will you be able to rest satisfied in leaving this to be done by others which perhaps no one can do so well as yourself?

Don't fear that we shall have too many answers or too much information on any one subject;—you shall not be bored by unnecessary repetitions it we are, which we hope will be the case, rather than the contrary. Remember "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

ANOTHER AGRICULTURAL PAPER.—We have received three numbers of a new paper, published monthly, at Lexington, called the "Kentucky Cultivator," a neat pamphlet of sixteen pages. We welcome it with hearty good will to the brotherhood of kindred publications, whose object is "to improve the soil and the mind."

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SYSTEMATIC CULTIVATION.

"Hate not laborious works, nor the husbandry which the Most High has erected."—*Bible.*

Agriculture is the oldest art of which we have any account. It was the occupation chosen by God for the first man, Adam. By it nations and communities are kept together. It is the bond of union that unites all society. It is an art more conducive to health, and more strictly united with religion and moral virtue than any other. It is important, then, that it should be well understood. It requires laborious work, and constant application. Inquiries into the principles of agriculture are like the key of knowledge, that will open unto us an extensive field for inquiry. Intelligent and patient observation will disclose vast riches for the mind to delight in, and add vast resources for physical happiness. As nothing comes by chance, as there is cause, a law for every thing that occurs in the universe, the inquiring cultivator of the soil may trace those laws, and ascertain correctly the theory of nature in the production and re production of plants; and when he prosecutes these interesting inquiries, he will obtain the most profitable results for his labor, both mentally and in the increased product of his lands. He will be a *scientific* or *natural* farmer.

Why not? Let every man understand thoroughly the fundamental principles of his own business. What a fund of knowledge may agriculture acquire!

Many farmers are contented to abandon their practice to their own taste and prejudice, without attempting to make serious investigation into the *science* or *principle* of their business, or of trying experiments, that they may be led to adopt improved modes of practice. Such farmers, though they may succeed in obtaining a living by their labor, will never advance in knowledge or wealth, or experience the true happiness, dignity and independence, which their calling, under intelligent and systematic direction is so well calculated to produce.

Practice, to be beneficial to the land, and profitable to the cultivator, must be in accordance with natural laws; and so far as any success attends the labors of the most ignorant and careless, it is only because these laws have been partially observed. It is not enough that a man was born and bred a farmer, to enable him to secure the most desirable result, for, it may be, that his breeding has not been of the best order, or, if he has been brought up on a good farm, and his modes of culture produce him better crops, keep his land in better tilth, and yield him more profit than his neighbor receives, yet the experience of others will be highly useful, for the field of inquiry is large; the knowledge obtained from good books, being the record of scientific and systematic experiments, conducted by farmers, as good, not to say better than himself, will be found highly serviceable to him.

When a man of superior genius applies himself to the arts, experience shows us that he does it with more ability, force of mind, industry, taste and with more inventions, new discoveries, and various experiments; whereas, a common man confines himself servilely within the common road, and to his ancient custom. Nothing opens his eyes, nothing raises him above his old habitudes, and after many years of patient labor, he still continues the same, without making any progress in the profession he follows.

On a reason of the small produce of farms, and the small return to the industrious farmer, is, that agriculture is no generally regarded as an art, that requires *rules, application* and *study.* It has too long been regarded as a mere manual occupation. A man is called a farmer, and is thought to have performed his part, when all the labors is to plough, plant and harvest without regard to rules or system. It is strange, indeed, that farmers, who above all others ought to understand the theory of soils, and the production of plants, and to observe the phenomenon of nature in these particulars, as a means not only of adding to their knowledge, but to their ease and profit, should neglect them most.

Experience is above all precepts, and makes even the faults we have committed conducer to our advantage; for, from doing wrong, we often learn to reform. The experience then of the thousand of intelligent minds, who have elucidated and brought out truths, on subjects directly and indirectly bearing upon agriculture, is to be regarded.—*Yankee Farmer.*

ONE HOUR A DAY.—Spending one hour more in bed, seems, at the time, but a small matter, and so it may be—yet in the course of a year, it makes a material difference. The person who rises at five o'clock, will have 365 hours more in a year than the one who sleeps till six.—This is equal to five weeks pure daylight, (allowing twelve hours per day) so that his year will number thirteen months. Is not this too much of a morning nap, which makes us feel "nothing better, but rather worse?" Whereas if we can summon sufficient strength of mind for the first effort, the deed is done—the hour gained—conscience satisfied—and, business will go better all day.—*New England Farmer.*

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Solon Robinson, Esq., whose untiring efforts to draw the attention of the agriculturists of the United States to the importance of establishing a National Institution, have been witnessed and applauded throughout the land, having arrived at Washington, a large and interesting meeting took place at the Patent Office on Saturday, of the friends of agriculture, which was called to order by the Hon. H. L. Ellsworth, when Solon Robinson, Esq. was appointed chairman, and John A. Smith and J. F. Cullen, Esqs. secretaries.—The chairman then stated the object of the meeting, and after several brief addresses were delivered, touching the vast importance of the objects contemplated, and their beneficial influence upon the science of agriculture throughout the whole country, the following resolutions were offered and adopted by large majorities:

By the Hon. Mr. Ellsworth. *Resolved,* That the interests of agriculture imperiously require the co-operation of its friends throughout the Union, to concentrate their efforts by the formation of a National Society, for the promotion of national industry, and to elevate the character and standing of the cultivators of American soil.

By A. O. Dayton, Esq. *Resolved,* That —— be a committee to prepare a draft of a constitution to be submitted to a meeting of the friends of American agriculture, to be held in the city of Washington on the second Wednesday of the ensuing session of Congress.

The blank was ordered to be filled by thirty members, to consist of one practical agriculturist in each State, Territory and District of the Union.—*Am. Farm.*

A more full account of the proceedings of this meeting, with Mr Robinson's address, and opinions of the agricultural press on the subject, will be published in our next number.

THE VINE.

(Translated from a French work.)

"The remarks we are about to make, apply to those species or varieties whose fruit is sought for the table, and not to those which are cultivated for wine.

A light and deep soil is the best adapted to produce excellent grapes. In poorer soils the vine languishes—in soils more consistent (more stiff) its productions will be too gross, too watery, and its fruit will have fewer good qualities. In the climate of Paris (whose summers though longer, agree very well with those of ours,) the vine requires a hot or warm exposure, in order to ripen the grapes perfectly, and it is *seldom,* except under the protection of a wall with a south or eastern aspect, that it finds the heat necessary to its *perfection.*

Of all the modes adopted of training, or of pruning the vine we shall only speak of one, that practised at Thomery, a village near Fontainbleau, because it appears to us preferable to all others, both for its simplicity and its results.

As to its results, all the world knows them. It is well known that the most beautiful and the best grapes eaten in Paris come from Thomery, (about 28 miles distant,) under the name of the Chasselas of Fontainbleau. It has been supposed, that the excellence of these grapes is owing to the nature of the soil and the favorable exposure of Thomery. By no means. Thomery has not a happy exposure, and its soil is clayey, cold, and almost incredibly hard to cultivate. We must admit then, that it is to their *treatment* of their grapes *alone* that their excellence and superiority is owing. Before we say any thing of their method, we would remark, that they are very cautious in selecting their varieties—they take only those of the best qualities, and keep them constantly separate and pure from inferior sorts. The walls against which they train their grapes or trellises are about eight feet high, and are covered with a top which projects about nine inches. This protects the vine against frosts, against the violence of rain, and also prevents the upper shoot from pushing too vigorously. These walls are furnished with trellises, the upright stand of which are two feet apart, and the slats or horizontal pieces or rails, one inch and nine inches apart: the lower one six inches only from the ground.

The grape border along this wall is dug and manured to the width of five feet, at least, and to the depth of 15 or 18 inches. If the soil is wet, they slope the border so as to throw off the water from the wall. When the border is prepared, they open a trench at four feet distance from the wall and parallel to it, two feet wide and nine inches deep. They have ready prepared a quantity of layers or cuttings, sufficient for the wall. After trimming them of tendrils and every thing useless or hurtful, they lay them across the trench at the bottom with the top towards the wall, and at the distance of twenty inches, one from the other, and cover them with four or five inches of soil, and tread them down: at the same time raising the upper end which was towards the wall nearly to a perpendicular—then fill the trench two thirds full, and spread the residue of the earth over the border. They then put into the trench three inches of manure which keeps the plants fresh and moist, and prevents the ground from getting dry and hard.

(*To be continued.*)

THE DUTY TO LABOR.—"The world owes me a good living, and I'll have it," says some blackleg as he finishes a luxurious repast; "here, landlord, another bottle of your prime Madeira." Half a dozen empty-headed fops, who sit gazing on him by stealth, in silent admiration, hail the sentiment with rapturous shouts. "That's it, the world owes us a good living, and we'll have it! Landlord! more wine here! we wont go home till morning. Let's go it while we're young. Who cares for the expense?"

The consequence of this is the pilfering of money drawers, the ignominious loss of employment, genteel loafering, and so on, until one of these enterprising gentlemen, in eager pursuit of the good living the world owes him, puts the wrong name to a check, or in some kindred way gets a ticket for the marble palace at Sing Sing, where the State provides "a living" for those it considers deserving, but not just such an one as consists with their own estimate of their exalted merits.

The great error in this case is the original maxim. It is false and detestable. "The world owes me a good living." How owes? Have you earned it by good service? If you have, whether on the anvil or in the pulpit, as a toiler or a teacher, you have acquired a just right to a livelihood. But if you have eaten as much as you have earned, or, still worse, have done little or no good, the world owes you nothing.

Mankind are just waking to a consciousness of the duty resting on every man to be active and useful in his day and in his sphere. All are not called to dig or hew, or plough or plane, but every man has a sphere of usefulness allotted him by Providence, and he is unfaithful to his high trust if he deserts it for idle pomp or heedless luxury. One man may be fitted by nature and inclination for an artisan, another for a sailor, and a third for a merchant, but no man was ever born fitted only to be an idler and a drone.

"But has not a rich man a *right* to enjoy his wealth?" Most certainly: we would be the last to deprive him of it. He has a natural and legal right to possess and enjoy it in any manner not injurious to others; but he has no moral right to be useless because he has superior means of being useful. Let him possess in abundance the means of satisfying every pure and just desire of his nature, and become wiser nobler, larger in soul than his less fortunate neighbor; but never let him forget, as, if properly trained, he never can, that it is his solemn duty to be useful to his fellow creatures, especially to the depressed and suffering—to labor for their benefit, and suffer, if need be, for their elevation.

The world soon learns to respect its benefactors in whatever sphere, and to realize that he who truly and honestly exerts himself in some department of useful effort, may justly claim a brotherhood with all who toil, and make, and earn. Let the rich cease to look down on the poor—the merchant on the porter; let each respect the dignity of man, whether in his own person or that of his less fortunate brother; let haughtiness and pride cease on one side, and envy, jealousy, and hatred with their train of direful consequences, will vanish from the other, and all, animated by a common kindness, will move forward in concord to the attainment of the highest good.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

INDUSTRIOUS HABITS.—In these degenerate times, when indolence and "genteel loafering" are so prevalent with a large proportion of the community—especially with those who do not feel the immediate *necessity* for personal exertions to procure a livelihood—it is gratifying to notice occasional instances of industry among men whose elevated station in society gives their example an important influence over all classes in society. Here are two instances, which we find going the rounds of the newspapers, instances which we wish, with all our heart, were more frequent than they are:

The Hon. Henry Clay, whose long continued public services and masterly eloquence have given him an enviable name in all quarters of the civilized world, in the course of some remarks in the United States Senate a few days since, used the following language:

"His were not those lazy, luxurious habits of eating dinners when he should be eating his supper. He was not much of a physician, but he would undertake to say, that if they would follow the practice adopted by himself, they would have little to fear from illness. He rose seldom later than five o'clock; he then took exercise, principally on horseback, for an hour or an hour and a half; he then made his toilette, took his breakfast, read the newspapers, and was ready to go to work. In connection with this, he always retired to bed at ten o'clock; seldom later. If his friends would pursue this course, he would not only insure their health, but would engage to pay their physician's bill."

The paragraph following is from the pen of the Hon. Isaac Hill, formerly a Senator from New Hampshire in the U. S. Congress—for some years Governor of New Hampshire, and more recently Receiver General of the public moneys for the New England States. Gov. Hill is now editor of the "Farmer's Monthly Visitor," an agricultural paper of the first rank, and also editor of the "New Hampshire Patriot," a leading political newspaper in that State. Hear him, and follow his example:

"To save the time of our men to work in the garden, we are on hand at five in the morning to drive the cows one mile and a half to pasture. Out and back, it is three miles and occupies one hour. This hour is more profitable for reflection than an hour of dozing over some book or newspaper before breakfast: it is a grand exercise both of mind and body. We gather the day's experience from every man we meet who has the wisdom to rise early: we are soothed with the carols of the robin, the lark and other birds, whose early music is wasted on the air while indolence is asleep. Reflection has a glorious opportunity; and as we write for two newspapers—for the farmer and the politician—we hope the early hours thus spent may please our readers as much as it fills our heart with gratitude to the Creator of such a world."—*New Haven Farmer's Gaz.*

HEMP.—*Continued from page* 54.—"The brake in general use in the same hand brake which was originally introduced and has been always employed here, resembling, though longer than the common flax brake. It is so well known as to render a particular description of it, perhaps, unnecessary. It is a rough contrivance, set up on four legs, about two and a half feet high. The brake consists of two jaws with slots on each, the lower jaw fixed and immovable, and the upper one movable, so that it may be lifted up by means of a handle inserted into a head or block at the front end of it. The lower jaw has three slots or teeth, made of tough white oak, and the upper two, arranged approaching to about two inches in front, and in such manner that the slots of the upper jaw play between those of the lower. These slots are about six or seven feet in length, six inches in depth, and about two inches in thickness in their lower edges, they are placed edgewise, rounded a little on their upper edges, which are sharper than those below. The laborer takes his stand by the side of the brake, and grasping in his left hand as many of the stalks as he can conveniently hold, with his right hand he seizes the handle in the head of the upper jaw, which he lifts, and throwing the handful of stalks between the jaws, repeatedly strikes them by lifting and throwing down the upper jaw. These successive strokes break the woody or reedy part of the stalks into small pieces or shoes, which fall off during the process. He assists their disengagement by striking the handful against a stake, or with a small wooden paddle, until the lint or bark is entirly clean, and completely separated from the woody particles.

"After the above operation is performed, the hemp may be scutched, to soften it, and to strengthen the threads. That process, however, is not thought to be profitable, and is not therefore generally performed by the grower, but is left to the manufacturer as well as that of beating and heckling it. Scutching is done by the laborer taking in his left hand a handful of the lint, and grasping it firmly, then laying the middle of it upon a semicircular notch of a perpendicular board of the scutching-frame, and striking with the edge of the scutch that part of the lint which hangs down on the board. After giving it repeated strokes, he shakes the handful of lint, replaces it on a noteh, and continues to strike and turn all parts of it, until it is sufficiently cleansed, and the fibres appear to be even and straight.

"The usual daily task of an able-bodied hand at the brake is eighty pounds' weight; but there is a great difference not only in the state of the weather and the condition of the stalks, produced by the greater or less degree in which they have been rotted, but in the dexterity with which the brake is employed. Some hands have been known to break from one hundred and fifty to two hundred pounds per day. The laborer ties up in one common bundle the work of one day, and in this state it is taken to market and sold. From what has been mentioned, it may be inferred, as the fact is, that the hemp of some growers is in a much better condition than that of others. When it has been carelessly handled or not sufficiently cleansed, a deduction is made from the price by the purchaser. It is chiefly bought in our villages, and manufactured into cotton bagging, bales, and other kinds of untarred cordage. The price is not uniform. The extremes have been as low as three and as high as eight dollars for the long hundred, the customary mode of selling it. The most general price during a term of many years has been from four to five dollars. At five dollars it compensates well the labor of the grower, and is considered more profitable than any thing else the farmer has cultivated."

"The quantity of net hemp produced to the acre is from six hundred to one thousand weight, varying according to the fertility and preparation of the soil and the state of the season. It is said that the quantity which any field will produce may be anticipated by the average height of the plants throughout the field. Thus if the plants will average eight feet in height, the acre will yield eight hundred weight of hemp; each foot in height corresponding to a hundred weight of hemp.

"Hemp exhausts the soil slowly, if at all. An old and successful cultivator told me that he had taken thirteen or fourteen successive crops from the same field, and that the last was the best.—That was, however, probably owing to a concurrence of favorable circumstances. Nothing cleanses and prepares the earth better for other crops (especially for small grain or grasses) than hemp. It eradicates all weeds, and when it is taken off, leaves the field not only clean, but smooth and even."

SUGAR BEET FOR STOCK.—Dr. W. S. Morton, in an address before the Cumberland Agricultural Society, recommends strongly the culture of the sugar-beet. He says

"I can most confidently recommend the beet, for I have cultivated it for some 7 or 8 years, and have never experienced a failure, my best crops being produced in the *driest* years. I believe that six or eight times as much food for cows, sheep or hogs, may be produced from the same quantity of land in this crop, as in any other that I have ever tried; their product is prodigious as the richest land, and they are worth cultivating on that of medium quality. If the introduction of turnip husbandry into England is considered there the greatest era in their agricultural history, we may well be thankful that a rout, much richer and more productive, is found so well adapted to our soil and country. There are, however, two things specially to be alluded to in its culture; the soil should have a cool substratum, and the land should receive a thorough fall ploughing *to destroy insects*. I lost three fourths of my first sowing the last season from neglecting to plough in the fall."

COMMUNICATIONS.

ELGIN, Kane Co. Ills., August, 1841.

J. S. WRIGHT, Esq.

Dear Sir,—I had made arrangements to transplant this fall, an orchard of young apple-trees. Calling a few days since on a friend, I was pained to learn that he had lost some hundreds of young trees planted out last season—what is the proper season for transplanting? Do the frosts of our *winter* injuriously affect the roots of the young tree when newly set in *our soil?* If some of your correspondents who have had experience on this subject, will please state the result through your columns, a favor would be conferred on several of your subscribers in this vicinity.

Sheep for the West.—What breed is most valuable? This is an important question, and one which can only be correctly decided by facts—wool not mutton being our object.

That sheep *will* do *well* on our rich, warm, dry prairies, seems to be already settled. *All*, so far as my knowledge extends, who have kept them coincide in their testimony that they not only do not deteriorate, but improve. This remark is true not only of the coarse long wooled sheep, but of the fine short wooled varieties also. Witness the product of Mr. Hewit's sheep, as mentioned in your June number. I would therefore with due deference beg leave respectfully to dissent from your opinion, as expressed in the last number of the Agriculturist, viz.: "That it is best to commence with those breeds naturally bearing a coarse wool." Why grow coarse wool when fine may be produced at equal or less expense; at any rate let us give it a fair trial—let us make the attempt—it will be time enough to grow an inferior article when we are compelled by actual experiment to acknowledge that we cannot produce that which is more valuable. Let us try, sir, let us introduce the Saxon, the Merino, the South Down, especially the *old fashioned pure Merino*, with his fine, soft, silky, heavy fleece—farmers are more fond of facts than theories; herewith I send you a specimon of wool taken from a year ling buck, whose ancestors have been on our prairies some eight or nine years; his entire fleece weighed 10½ lbs.

EDWD. W. BREWSTER.

For the Union Agriculturist.

WEEDS, &c.

Dear Sir,—There are several kinds of weeds on the prairies that have something of the appearance of Lucern, which cattle, horses, sheep, and even hogs, are extremely fond of, both when green and dry. I cut a few bunches twice, of one kind, that were about fifteen inches high, and might have cut them the third time before the frosts, as they grew after the second cutting about twelve inches—these bunches stood among other prairie grass. Is the grass commonly called "blue joint" the gamma grass? Can some one that is acquainted with the gamma grass tell us something about it. Wild bean, commonly called pea-vine, is an excellent food for all kinds of stock; can it be cultivated, and how?

My neighbor Miner showed me some onions a few days since, that were preserved through the winter in the best condition of any that I ever saw at this season of the year (20th of March). The way they were preserved in so good condition was thus—he levelled a spot on the ground, as he would to bury potatoes, then put on some prairie hay, so that when pressed down it was about three or four inches thick, then put on his onions, covered them with prairie hay, and put on about six inches of earth. He says they should be covered about the same depth as apples.

The wren, I had always supposed, was a destroyer of bees, until I was told a short time since, by a very intelligent lady, from the city of N. Y., that her father used to encourage their building about his hives, by putting out all the horse skulls that he could obtain. She said that her father raised his hives about two inches, by means of small blocks under the corners, that the wrens might go under to clear the hives from moths, worms and dead bees, which they did effectually without disturbing the bees.

Cows in this country are frequently troubled with the garget in the bag or udder; it can be cured with shake or garget root; give a cow a piece of the dry root, about the size of your finger, pulverized and mixed with bran; given two or three times will effect a cure.

The root should be kept somewhere in the country for sale, as it is not to be found here; I have obtained a few seeds, and intend to do my best to cultivate it. During the past winter I have cured a cow that I supposed spoiled for milk, with root brought from the State of New York. Yours, with respect,

A. CHURCHILL.

MOUNT CARMEL, Ills., July 13, 1841.

SIR,—By the last mail I received at this office, two numbers of the Union Agriculturist, together with a prospectus, &c. I was much gratified to see that the people in our State are waked up to their best interests; it is what has been wanting for some time. It is the only source of wealth, and will be the means of doing more to relieve the people of our State from their embarrassed situation, than all the internal improvement systems yet adopted, which have brought us in debt. We have been expecting our wise legislators to grant us relief; the change in our administration, our called session of Congress, to do something extraordinary for our relief, but, sir, we are barking up the wrong tree, it is industry and economy at home that will give the one thing needful to relieve our present embarrassment. We must begin to cultivate industrious habits, improve our soil to a better advantage, increase and improve our different kinds of stock, think less about politics and idle speculations, and go to work. And I know of no better plan to make a decided change in the habits of our farmers, than to establish Agricultural Societies in every county, and hold out inducements to those who excel in different productions. It will be the means of improving the different kinds of stock, will induce men to bring in to our State the most improved stock of every kind, as well as grain, which will greatly increase industry and a kind stubition to excel, and if we can produce a disposition also to manufacture our own necessaries and luxuries, instead of sending abroad for them, we will soon see a change in the times, and the people once more out of debt.

The people have run wild with the idea of speculations of various kinds. Banks, railroads, merchandizing and over-trading has been all the go for some years past; well, we see the consequence, and it is now time to retreat and fall back on our old ground again. We have established an Agricultural Society in this county, to be known as the Wabash County Agricultural Society; our first annual fair will be the first Wednesday in October next, at which time premiums will be awarded to the best stock of every kind, also for the best productions of grain, hemp and tobacco; also for the best productions of the loom, and needle-work of various kinds. It is only a few months since it was organized, and we have already a number of fine hogs and cattle brought on, hemp seed introduced, and a quantity sown for the purpose of raising seed for another year.—I will do all I can to encourage your paper, but the prospect is not so flattering as it would have been earlier in the season; a number take the Cultivator, and some the Western Farmer and Gardener, at this office, while a good many are rather cramped in money matters. There will be a meeting of the Society on the fourth Saturday in next month, when I think I will likely make you a raise, &c. I am the Secretary of the W. A. S., and would be pleased to hear from other Societies when convenient, on all matters that would tend to industry and enterprise.

Yours respectfully,

A. ARMSTRONG.

MICHIGAN CITY, August, 1841.

To the Editor of the Union Agriculturist.

SIR,—I was much gratified this morning on going to the Post Office, and finding there the June No. of your valuable paper. It came like a long sought for friend, and I hurried to my room in order to peruse and profit by yours, and the suggestions of your numerous correspondents. Among the many in the June No., none pleases me better than the remarks of your correspondent "A. Churchill." I should like to shake hands with him, and profit by the advice which I know he is capable of giving. Such men, setting *such* examples, in the West, are indeed philanthropists. He tills the soil, cultivates the minds of his children, and, still better, he can find a spare moment to address a few lines to you. For myself, I am actually ashamed at having made so many excuses, for not attempting more, both for my own improvement, and those around me; but I shall no longer urge that sickening plea, "no time," "too much to do," &c., and henceforth, if my pen can be of any service to you, or if it will "wake up" the friends of agriculture to an understanding of their *true* interests, it shall be done; *provided* you shall deem me worthy of notice. Our Agricultural Society has done well for your paper; but more remains to be done, and I am in hopes to send you a long list of good subscribers, accompanied with the *Cash* ere the winter sets in.

Yours in faith, S.

For the Union Agriculturist.

KISHWAUKEE, Winnebago co., Aug. 30, 1841.

MR. EDITOR,

Dear Sir,—As you strenuously insist upon your subscribers bearing a part of the burthen of furnishing matter for the "Union Agriculturist," I am prompted to communicate a few things, which if you should deem worthy of a place in your most valuable periodical, you are at liberty to publish.

I commenced my farming operations in Northern Illinois a little more than two years since, and was *quite* unacquainted with "prairie farming;" in consequence of which I was not prepared to take every advantage in putting in and gathering crops; especially the root crop, to the raising of which I have directed considera-

ble attention. As the season for gathering roots is fast approaching, I will give you my method of gathering them, particularly Ruta Baga and Turnip.

My first business is to see that my hoes are sharp, after which, myself, or some careful hand go into the field, and with the hoe clip the tops off at such a distance from the roots as not to cut them; this being done, I go into the field with my team and drag out the roots, and if the ground is dry and hard, I put on the drag a heavy stone or piece of wood. After passing over the same ground two or three times, they are loosened and ready for gathering in. I then drive my cart or waggon into my field and commencing at one side, throw my roots in as I would pumpkins, in which way my cart is soon filled. After this is done I drive my cart near the cellar or pit made for them and empty them on the ground for the purpose of rattling off the dirt, (which I find is not only detrimental, but nearly fatal to their preservation,) from whence they are taken by hand and thrown into their place of deposit. I have found it necessary to watch them that they do not heat, which I prevent by ventilating the holes. In gathering my beets and carrots I trim the tops in the same way, and in case they have penetrated the earth very deep I find it the best way to plough a deep furrow as near the row as I can without injuring the roots—turning the furrow from the row. This enables me to pull them with comparative ease. So much for root gathering.

I have recently received an importation of *pure* blooded Berkshires, consisting of three males and five females, six of which are from J. Lossing's stock. Albany, the remainder are from N. K. Townsend's stock, New Haven. They are pronounced equal, if not superior, to any which have been brought into this part of the State.

There have been six others brought in by the Messrs. Waterman, of Newburgh, a part of them from Lossings and a part of them from Allen, of Buffalo. So you see old Winnebago has got a pretty fair start in Berkshires, and should any of your subscribers wish to procure the *genuine stock* they may be accommodated, another spring, either by the Messrs. W. or myself. We are also getting some very good Durham cattle into this country, mostly from the Messrs. Lee's imported Bull Duke. There are several calves in this neighborhood progeny of said Bull, which I should like to see exhibited at the Fair of the Un. Ag. Society in October next, but fear, as the distance is so great, that we shall not be able to attend with them.

Yours Respectfully,
HORACE MILLER.

For the Union Agriculturist.

RIDGE PRAIRIE, Ill., Aug. 16, 1841.

THE CATALPA TREE.

Mr. Editor,—I have several times attempted to raise this valuable timber from the seed, by planting it early in the spring: but always failed. A neighbor of mine, who planted the seed as soon as it was ripe, has been successful.

G. CHURCHILL.

For the Union Agriculturist.

GENEVA VILLAGE, Welworth co., W. T.
July 24th, 1841.

POISONING WOLVES.

Mr. Editor:—

Sir,—As this section of country was much infested with wolves during the winter of 1839, I gave to a neighbor who had lost a cow, a few grains of strychnine (made from the *strychnos calabrinum,*) instructing him to cut out small baits, and insert into each, under a flap cut very thin, 1-8 of a grain of the poison. The body of the cow was drawn to a convenient spot on the banks of our Lake and the prepared baits dropped at different distances around the carcase. The stratagem resulted in the death of six wolves, besides a number of foxes, raccoons and birds of prey. When these facts became known, I had many applications for the article; and as uniformly successful were these trials, that I can enumerate twenty six wolves and one panther which have been destroyed by the strychnine, (only 60 grains,) which I furnished that winter. One farmer in the town had $40 bounty for the wolves he killed with but one dollar's worth of the poison. In this case the flap was sewed down with *colored thread,* so that on opening the stomach he knew his own bait again; and was thereby enabled to take the necessary oaths for obtaining the bounty. It is a good practice, under all circumstances, to sew down the flap over the poison, lest the animal should taste and reject it; (it is exceedingly bitter;) but then the flap should be as thin as possible, that it may the sooner come in contact with the nerves of the stomach.—Strychnine causes death solely by its action on the nerves, and therefore no traces of phlogistian, or even of cerebral congestion can be discovered on dissection.

Winter is the most convenient season for using this poison to advantage: not only on account of the bait being more easily obtained, and kept; and the animal more easily tracked to the spot where he finally falls; (this varies from one rod to one mile,) but also because the poison is more fatal in cold weather.

Strychnine may be made from any of the *strychnos* family of plants; but the best is made from the *St. Ignatius Bean,* or the *Upas tremte* of *Java.* That which is made from the *nux vomica* is comparatively weak, requiring half a grain to kill a wolf; but as it is more easily obtained, I will describe the method of extracting the strychnine from it.

Boil four pounds of the nut in two gallons of water as long as possible without burning; strain and evaporate to the consistence of molasses; add lime enough to saturate the acid, and set the strychnine free; dissolve this last in alcohol, and evaporate till the salt is crystelised. In this manner the poison may be obtained with very little cost, but such as consider this process rather troublesome, can send to some wholesale druggist, where a tolerable article can be had for three dollars per drachm of 60 grains. It may be kept any length of time, and is not injured by exposure to the air.

I will now close, by stating my conviction, that should but 60 grains be purchased and properly used, by each town in Wiskonsan and Illinois the ensuing winter, sheep might be pastured in the thickest woods, without risk, the following summer.

Yours Respectfully,
J. MACNISH, M. D.

For the Union Agriculturist,

HOUSTON, Ill., Aug. 5, 1841.

WINTER WHEAT, &c.

Dear Sir,— a a a a a

I sowed one bushel of velvet wheat (red chaff and bearded) last season. I was much pleased with it. But in the last few days I have been told that the millers dislike it, on account of its thick, heavy bran. Can you give us any information on this subject? It has a most beautiful grain; and if it grind well, it must be a great favorite with wheat raisers.

To fill up my sheet, I will give you the plan I pursued last season in sowing my wheat. I ploughed in the stubble in August, (this was the third crop) I then harrowed it close; Sept. 12, I sowed my wheat, about 1½ bushel per acre: and harrowed it very well. My crop was as good as any in this section, except a few new ground crops. By ploughing in the stubble early, no injury was done by the chess: as it had all come up before sowing, and the close harrowing (say 3 times) destroyed every green thing as effectually as ploughing would have done.

This season has been an indifferent one for crops generally, though our wheat is a good average. Oats and Spring Wheat have proved almost a failure. Corn is much injured by the long continued drouth; and unless it rain soon, this crop will be light.

Yours in haste,
H. A. CRAUS.

For the Union Agriculturist.

GRAZIER'S DELL, Scott co., Ill.,
July, 1841.

Mr. Editor,—I feel sanguine that your paper will redound to the interest of our State, and should it continue to be properly managed must, in time, become to the west what the Cultivator is to the east. I also respectfully take this occasion to correct a small error made by our worthy friend and your correspondent, J. S. Norton, of Rockford, who says: the imported Irish boar, imported by William Greer was white with a gentle wave in the hair, which was thin; the sow also white with the exception of a black spot or two upon the hip, hair strait, short and thin." The gentleman's description answers in every particular with this exception: the curled hair is upon the sow and the two black spots upon the sow's neck instead of the hip. The hair upon the boar, I recollect, was short and strait. I am now the owner of the old sow, which I purchased of Mr. Greer; she is now in good plight for raising pigs, looks quite likely to live several years and bring pigs. She has now two with her about six weeks old, male and female, by a full blooded Berkshire boar, sired by Black, owned by J. L. Letton, Bourbon co., Ky.; she had ten—six came dead—the old sow probably receiving some injury by mixing among other other stock, and owing to her great weight; two of the remaining four were killed some way in the bed; the surviving ones are mostly white with black spots, hair very fine and glossy.

I am very confident from all my observations (and having all the three kinds of blooded hogs, I have good opportunities to learn,) that a cross of the Berkshire with the Irish and Bedford will prove a very profitable hog to farmers generally. My opinion, however, is, that the cross either way between the three kinds is to be preferred to the full blood of either. Next fall I intend to send the old Irish sow to Letton's white Berkshire boar, Sir Robert Deal, imported May, 1839, by said Letton, living in Bourbon co., Ky. I have now on hand a very fine litter of pigs with the following combination, viz: Irish, Bedford, Berkshire, and Big English. I will conclude my remarks on hogs, and may hereafter send you some remarks on cattle and other stock.

Very Respectfully,
E. B. HITT.

A friend, who prefers his name should not be given, writes as follows:

"I am heartily glad of the success of your paper. I think it, with other kindred publications, destined to do more good than at first sight appears. It must be obvious to every observer, that an important change has taken place within a few years, with reference to the respectability of labor—and particularly of agricultural pursuits. This change has in some measure grown out of the necessities of the times, but has also been produced in no small degree, by agricultural publications. Young man will of course regard a pursuit with repugnance which it is *fashionable* to shun. But when they see the very best energies in the land devoted to agricultural pursuits—not merely to talking and writing about them—but actually engaged with *hands,* and head, in them, they will no longer consider them degrading—or that education and labor are incompatible. I confess that the course of opinion on this subject, gives more strength to my hopes, for the perpetuity of our institutions, than any thing else, (one excepted, and I mean by this, the course of opinion on the subject of Christianity.) The undercurrents of public feeling and opinion, have a closer connection with the destinies of nations, and are therefore of more importance than a thousand things that attract more eyes and are talked more about. It is by observing them, that the true philosopher feels the pulse of a nation, and judges of its health. I regard the course of public feeling on this subject, though one which doclaimers will overlook, as of more importance than the last presidential election even—I mean in a political and national point of view.

"I think perhaps your journal might be still more useful, if you would select a class of articles, not to occupy too much space, of a little different character from any that I notice in any of the agricultural papers—articles it is true, of somewhat less *practical* character; but still having a most important bearing on the same subject. To illustrate my meaning, I would refer you to some extracts from the "Diet." on the subject of labor, contained in the New Yorker of the April and May numbers. You have some readers who do not elsewhere reach such articles, but who would probably relish them more than any thing you could publish. I would not of course take up any great space with them."

We agree entirely with our correspondent, as to what is to be hoped for, from the rapidly increasing desire to improve and advance the agricultural interest. Facts abundantly testify, that agricultural pursuits are the best preservatives of public morals. Of all the criminals the past year in the State prisons of Pennsylvania, it is said only one was a farmer by profession. This fact is strictly in accordance with the laws of moral science, for a laborious farmer has little time to practice knavery; and rogues are not often tend enough of steady, hard work, to make farming interesting. Whatever, therefore, tends to make labor more honorable, is worthy the attention of every patriot; and as that will be one—in fact the great object with the Union Agriculturist,—we ask the continued co-operation of every benevolent patriotic politician.

It was our intention to have used some portion of the paper, in disseminating other than agricultural information. The subject of common school education in particular, it was our intention to have noticed often. But as agriculture was to be the great theme, and as valuable articles have been continually crowded out, we have not felt at liberty, for the last few Nos., to employ the room for anything but agricultural articles.

When the receipts will warrant an enlargement, which we hope will soon be the case, we will engage to give a variety.

For the Union Agriculturist.

ROCKFORD, August, 1841.

THE FAIRS, &c.

Dear Sir,—After waiting with much impatience for the appearance of the Agriculturist, we have at length received the June No., much to our joy, as it has relieved us of our suspense as to the why's and wherefore's of the non-appearance of what had become a welcome visitor. I hope that nothing may transpire in future to prevent you from getting out your paper regularly, and I have no doubt the commencement of a new year will find your list of subscribers from this county much increased. We expect to hold the annual meeting of our Agricultural Society, at Rockford, on the 2d Wednesday of October, (13th) when we shall have our fair and then expect to see (in addition to other stock) several Berkshire hogs and pigs, from the most fashionable stock in the United States, exhibited against my stock of "Irish Graziers." My intention now is, to take a pair or more of "Irish Graziers," and my stallion Uncas, to Naperville, to exhibit at your fair, to contend for the premiums for the best stallion, the best boar, and the best sow, and perhaps for the second best sow.

It will be considerable expense to me to come out; and I shall hope to see the best stock (in the hog line especially) that can be started out, shewn against the "Irish Graziers," as *nothing* but a desire to satisfy the community by an actual comparison of stock, of the different breeds of hogs, could induce me to move mine so far, under my present circumstances. I also intend, if you are prepared to take O'Connel, to leave him with you in Chicago, to make his fall and winter season; and if you think advisable, I will also leave Judith, who will bring pigs about the 12th of November. I may have possibly two or three full blood pigs, which will do to take off by that time. I have a few ¾ blood also, which I may take, if there is a prospect of selling or exchanging them readily for something nice to cross in with my grade hogs. I shall offer for sale at that time my stallion *Uncas,* and a pair of carriage horses, 16 hands high, active, strong, sound and kind, in single or double harness, or under the saddle; one of them paces, trots, and gallops well under the saddle, and they are well matched. I shall offer them solely to raise cash.

My time is so much occupied about these times, that I cannot add more at present, save that I hope the cause of agriculture may receive such an impetus this fall in Illinois, that we may indeed become what nature has designed us to be—the greatest agricultural community on the Globe—and at least be able to sustain our agricultural paper in our State, and make it what it should be.

In haste, I remain yours, with respect,
J. S. NORTON.

MR. BRAYSHAW'S ADDRESS.

Sir,—I enclose you the within extract from the commencement of a speech delivered by me in Pinkneyville, on the first day of the Circuit Court. Bad health has prevented me forwarding it at an earlier period. Should life and health permit, I will either send you the remainder as delivered, or embody the substance in separate articles, on cattle, hogs, clover, and root culture.

Yours,
JOSEPH BRAYSHAW.

"There is nothing of greater importance to the human family, than those arts and occupations which contribute to our support and comfort. The spontaneous products of the earth are capable of affording only a precarious and scanty subsistence to a very limited number of inhabitants, whatever increase of population above those who can be thus supported, whatever addition above this, is made to the necessaries, the comforts, or the luxuries of life, arises from the ingenuity and labor of man; and in the same proportion in which this ingenuity is directed, by any people towards producing with facility the necessaries and comforts of life, in the same proportion may that people be said to be civilized or enlightened, and in the same proportion will the wealth and comforts of that people increase. Whatever we possess in life, whatever necessaries, whatever comforts, whatever luxuries, they are all originally the products of the earth, arising from the labor and ingenuity of man; whether they are the products of its surface, under the name of agricultural products, or whether they consist of minerals contained within its bosom, they are the elementary means of human subsistance and comfort, and the producers and framers or manufacturers of these articles, are mutually dependent on each other. This train of thought naturally leads us to the conclusion that those individuals who are engaged in improving and perfecting the processes by which the means of human subsistence are multiplied, are in every nation the most useful portion of its inhabitants. I was led into this train of thought in very early life, by observing a certain picture, entitled "The three Alls;" in which the soldier says, 'I fight for all,' the priest says, 'I pray for all,' the farmer says, *'but I pay for all.'* Hence I was led to the consideration of the relative position which different individuals held in human society, in consequence of their various occupations; I observed that labor was held in contempt, and that the meed of respectability was awarded only to those who are exempt from manual labor. That such a state of things should exist under the tyrannical governments of Europe is not surprising, but that it should exist in a country like ours, is much to be regretted, with us the scales ought to be completely turned. It is true, the simple operations of manual labor may soon be acquired by individuals of very ordinary intellect; they may learn to labor nearly without thought, therefore we must award a higher degree of usefulness to him who is engaged in improving the different processes and implements of labor, in rendering water, fire, air, and all the different principles in nature, subservient to our use, but the highest degree of merit is justly due to him who can in his own person combine the knowledge to direct, with the power to perform, the operations: whilst those individuals who add nothing either to the knowledge or subsistence of man, ought to be considered as the most worthless part of the human family.

Gentlemen,—If any occupation can justly claim a pre-eminence above others, on account of its extensive usefulness or ornament, of its absolute necessity to mankind, it is that of Agriculture, and it is really mortifying to the well wisher to his country, to see how anxious many of the cultivators of the soil are to leave this occupation, in order to follow some other, which they think will make them gentlemen. Shame upon that gentility which depends only on dress or occupation! The true gentleman, the true man of respectability, is the man who is most useful to his country. To make those useful men, to make men who can think as well as labor, is the object of our Agricultural Societies. To encourage the application of science to agriculture, and the useful arts of life, to elicit thought to promote knowledge, and to encourage the application of that knowledge to useful purposes is our object.

It is true our Society is yet in its infancy, little has yet been accomplished, much remains to be done. Yet though our Society has been organized but one short year, no doubt some good has already been effected, a more general disposition to the improvement of stock has become prevalent, and the experience of the past year has demonstrated that it is better and more profitable to feed swine well one year, than to keep them perishing during two or three years, and the culture of roots for stock to some extent has already been introduced. Amongst the means of improvement within our reach at present, I wish

particularly to call your attention to reading, and probably there is no kind of reading calculated to be more useful to the common farmer, than that which is found in agricultural newspapers, as through the medium of these we become acquainted with the varied experience of the best farmers of the country, which cannot fail to be highly valuable to every one anxious for improvement. Of these papers there are many valuable ones published in different sections of the country; there is now one published at Chicago, within the limits of our own State, which well deserves the support of our farmers, as many of its articles are from the pens of practical farmers of the West, and are better adapted to the peculiarities of our situation than those which are published at a greater distance."

NOTE.—We hope to hear from Mr. Brayshaw soon, on the remaining subjects of his address, and regret that the delay of the paper has prevented publishing it as well as communications from other correspondents, at an earlier day.—Notwithstanding "a stern chase is a long one," as a correspondent remarks, we expect soon to issue the numbers regularly on the first of each month; and hope the friends of agriculture will remember that we shall need an extra quantity of original matter, until the time which has been lost shall be regained. And if the delay has cooled their ardor, or shaken their confidence in the practicability of sustaining a paper here, devoted to the cause of agricultural improvement; let them take courage now that they see it fairly under way again, and help to swell the sails, and if it comes in their way, furnish some of the necessary ballast, that there may be no danger of the "craft" being thrown on her beam ends again.

For the Union Agriculturist.

FENCING THE PRAIRIES.

DEAR SIR:—Noticing a communication from Dr. Thomas in the June No. of your paper, commenting upon Col. Gooding's article on fencing, and convinced with him that much of the heavy outlay of the Col's. plan must be avoided in settling the prairies; I am induced to describe to you a very common mode of fencing, which has answered well, and costs but little compared with sawed posts, bonnds and nails, and I believe will last longer. I will here add that I believe no post and oak board fence will last as long as a common worm fence, unless the boards be set up perpendicularly and nailed to horizontal rails.

He, however, who is unembarrassed, and has a floating capital sufficient to purchase and enclose 320 acres and erect necessary buildings, will seldom commence farming in this way, if at all. The "ups and downs" of life, in good or bad times, always afford a man so situated abundant opportunities to do better. Nor nas the time yet come, though I hope it is not distant, when emigrants, with more moderate means, seek the *prairie* for a home.

The very *ne plus ultra* of the Far West is a good tract of "*timber and prairie alternate*" or near, within striking distance af navigation, where a log cabin can be raised and a field of respectable size be enclosed with a *worm fence* and cultivated the first season. This, I say, is the perfection of all that can be sought in emigration, and this is still so often, and always so nearly attainable, that many an observing emigrant passes over the golden offers held forth by the prairies to seek *this* dwelling of comfort.

It is here with the labor of his own hands, and the trifling outlay for a "quarter section" or an "eighty," and a few head of cattle, the emigrant of one or two hundred dollars finds himself in the short space of six or eight years, possessor of a cultivated farm upon which he has erected tenements commensurate with the comforts of a family, and the already numerous herds which have imperceptibly grown from his little beginning. The attraction of wealth thus rapidly obtained is no alluring, that all other considerations are merged in its pursuit, and the farmer often selects a point so remote from neighbors, or without sufficient timber to attract others, that, though he soon becomes a wealthy herdsman, yet, secluded as he is, he finds to his sorrow that his family is growing up around him uneducated, and deprived of that intercourse with the world so necessary to the business of life.

The question daily gains importance then, how can the *prairies* be enclosed economically and efficiently? This problem must be solve I sooner or later. We could haul our fuel to the centre of large prairies if we could enclose the land with a durable fence at a moderate cost; and in most parts of the State small tracts of timber near the prairie can be purchased at from five to ten dollars per acre.

The fertility of the soil is beyond question, and these are every where running streams and sites sufficiently attractive, to tempt the thousands who are daily seeking a newer country, where the advantages of timber are at hand.

The true policy is not easily adopted. *These "refuse lands* (fertile as they are) *should belong to the State* and the difficulty would vanish by her giving bounties in land to those who should enclose substantially, and cultivate, a given amount for a term of years. *Or*, if the *General Government* would *reduce* the price of lands which have been offered for sale two years, and offer *prospective pre-emptions* to those who should cultivate successively, much would soon be settled which is now vacant.

If the State of Illinois owned the refuse prairie without a foot of timber, and would give one half to actual settlers who should continue to cultivate, she would gain in the accession of a taxable population more by ten fold, than by the enhanced value of the other moiety of her lands. And till some other disposition of refuse lands is made it is vain to think of settling large tracts of prairie, while that so infinitely more easily enclosed can be purchased within a few days ride at $1,25 per acre.

But I have ran away from the fence; I intended to describe a half wall with post and three flat rails. A ditch 3½ feet wide by 2 feet deep, thrown to one side, will make a wall two feet high with a sufficient base. The wall should be placed about a foot from the ditch, to prevent the frost from undermining it, and on the side next the ditch the turf should be turned outward. If made any time previous to June, or late in the fall, it will continue to grow; but the June grass makes a better turf than any other in this country; if this be sowed when the wall is made, it will take place of all other grasses or weds in two years.

The posts should be made of white oak, five and a half feet long, and wide enough to admit holes two inches wide in the middle. The bottom of the post should be sharpened, and the first hole should be made two feet eight inches from the point, the post is inserted two and a half feet, which carries it six inches into the ground.

With these precautions the first rail will be nearly in contact with the top of the wall, and the next rail should be placed so low as to leave no crevice between it and the first; the third rail should be raised six or eight inches from the second. The two bottom rails ought to be eight inches wide, never less than six inches, and the top rail may be a light heart rail. This will make a fence five and a half to six feet from the bottom of the ditch, and *prairie hog proof*, nor will cattle accustomed to break through rail fences ever disturb this. I have made several hundred rods of it which has stood the winds and breaking up of three to five winters, and has not failed in any instance. Much that I first made was nearly spoiled by making the lower holes in the posts too far apart, spreading the rails so as to admit hogs. It is quite as well to set the posts after the wall is made as when making, by taking a single spade full of earth from the wall, and making a hole with a crow bar, a post will drive down 2½ feet and remain as firm as if set in the well. Timber to make posts 5½ feet long can be found in most woods, but it requires the best of timber to split into rails of good width. Inch and a quarter boards would make an elegant substitute for rails when mills are at hand. The ditch and wall can be made in Cook, Will and La Salle counties, for from 12½ to 18½ cents per rod, my first and poorest fencing cost twenty-five cents per rod, and I boarded the man and found team to haul the rails. That subsequently made by a man at $12 per month and board, did not cost twenty-five cents, inclusive of ditch and wall. It is worthy of remark, that in making this kind of fence, attention must be paid to the fidelity of the workmanship; for if the posts be not well inserted, or the rails be too far apart, the timber would be worth more than the fence.

The inside of the wall, being left without turf, is in fine condition to plant with thorns, locust, or other hedge. As an experiment, I planted two years ago about ten rods of the common white bark thorn, which grows abundantly along creek bottoms, and more or less in the upland timber. I took up the plants of three or four years growth and set them out on the inside of the wall. They have all continued to grow finely, but I have taken no pains to twist them together, or to cut off the tops as I ought. A few honey locust too, planted carelessly last spring on another wall, have come and look well. Those raised in gardens have not grown large the first year or two, but have after wards shot up thriftily.

Honey locust grows abundantly on the island in the Kankakee river, at Wilmington, in this county; and farmers sending their wool there to card can obtain seed by picking it up. It is a beautiful shade tree, if it does not succeed in hedge, which I can hardly doubt.

Very respectfully, A. W. BOWEN.

JULIET, Ill.

If any farmers feel disposed, as no doubt many will, to act upon Mr. Norton's proposal in bringing some of their small stock to the Fair for exchange for mutual benefit, it would be well for them to speak out through the next number of the paper, which will be published previous to the Fair, so that all may know what to expect. We would say to all, bring in your stock, even should you not expect to obtain the premiums. The interest of this, the first, Fair depends upon the spirit with which farmers take hold of it. Let none be backward; but show such stock as they have.

LARGE CALVES

I see, by many of the agricultural papers, notices of large calves;—*I would it is a certain criterion of bad breeding*. I have noticed through life that the off-spring of a well bred animal generally comes small, and makes less improvement the first year than any other; therefore, if I purchased calves for stock, I should never choose an overgrown one: time increases their bad points. Another great error I have noticed,—persons make distinctions between breeds of cattle without putting their hand upon them. It is totally absurd for a man to form a correct idea of the quality of an animal by the eye alone, that is ascertained *by the hand*; the *handling* (as it is termed) is the governing point in purchasing with all *butchers* and *graziers*, and any man with a grain of information on the subject, must be aware that *breeders* should look to that point, beyond all others, in the males which they make use of; it is the only way to keep right. *Hard handlers* require much more food, and must be forced with expensive keep to make them ripe, this I have known by experience from boyhood, and I am satisfied that when the *good quality of the flesh*, as above described, is found in a *milch cow*, the milk will invariably yield much more butter in proportion, than that which is drawn from an animal inferior in the touch. If shorthorn breeders had paid more attention to these matters, there would not be so many "*light hides*," bad forms and bad milkers, which now disgrace their name. An inferior *Durham* is a very unprofitable animal, but the better sort must always maintain a high rank, and will, with the *Herefords*, be the staple breeds of the country.

I am, dear sir, yours, most respectfully,

WM. HENRY BOTHAM.

Albany, May 24, 1841.

[*Phil. Far. Cab.*

SMUT IN WHEAT.—Mr. Samuel Bradley communicates the following opinions to the Maine Farmer.

"There has been much said by agriculturalists respecting smut in wheat and the cause of it. Writers have disagreed on the subject; some have supposed that smut would produce smut, and even impregnate good wheat. Others have regarded the time of sowing, and have supposed the weather to produce the effect. But in my opinion the cause of the smut proceeds from a fly. In tracing the progress of the fly, after the wheat is sowed to its harvesting, I am satisfied that the fly is capable of destroying the crop in several ways which may be noticed. The fly places the animalcule at the root, which may be found by pulling up some. When the blade turns a dark color, again about the time the wheat is heading, you will observe the fly hovering about the head, which is the time the fly bores his bill into the kernel, after the nourishment for its own body. The milk weeping out becomes smut. The fly then begins to nibble at the head, and places the animalcule there called the weevil.

"The all-wise Creator, who has supplied us so bountifully with bread, and has so wisely caused the wheat to grow, has created these little insects for some particular purpose. Deity had a motive in creating them; and I have no doubt but they are endowed with sufficient knowledge to pass through several grades, and to accomplish this great work which causes the smut, and it has this good effect, it employs the thoughts of men, as well as their hands, on the works of creation, and it convinces us that we are dependent on a being who has created all, and we are endowed with sufficient ability to try experiments, and to examine into the causes and effects of certain things, it therefore deserves our attention. Wheat culture ought to be encouraged, which is my motive in publishing this. Let us select suitable land to sow wheat on, and sow it in season, do our duty, and we may be rewarded a hundred fold.

"I can recommend to wash wheat before you sow it. Put one peck of wood ashes and one half peck of lime to a bushel of wheat, and it may have a good effect as a quick spur in stirring it, also sow on ashes on a rainy day, after the wheat is up, especially when you discover the fly to lurk in it, or on it, sow it on bountifully. The ashes being wet when it falls on the flies, it will either kill or scatter them. I also recommend to sow more clover near to the wheat, that the fly may take that in preference to the wheat, I would remark that the fly will take some place in which to deposite the animalcule, no mistake.

"I further remark, that in the year 1777, the weevil made its appearance in the town of Amesbury, Mass., on the farm of Joseph Wingate, Esq. The weevil was then placed on the head of the wheat, the same as in 1839. The weevil at that time was very alarming; it proceeded from the Hessian fly that came over the sea with Gen. Burgoyne's army, so the word passed through the State, and the fly likewise. The next year there was no wheat sowed on the farm, but the weevil was found in the clover heads in great plenty. In travelling through the Western country, I heard but little said about smutty wheat. But in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, much was said about the weevil being in their large stacks of wheat, and in the flour mills. Dr. Marryfield of Bloomington, Kentucky, had on hand a thousand bushels of wheat that had so many weevils in it, that if ground, the flour would be so bitter it would not sell in the market, therefore he had to give it to his hogs.

"I should not have written about the weevil in the Western States, had it been generally known that the weevil in those States is a much larger substance than the weevil in Maine.—Therefore, when you hear men complain about the fly and the weevil in Maine, remind them of the large fly and weevil in the Western States."

Extract from the address of Rev. H. Colman, Commissioner of the Agricultural Survey of Massachusetts.

"I wish briefly to draw the attention of farmers to the value of the hay, compared with other crops, for the feeding of stock. An acre of hay yields one ton and a half of vegetable food. An acre of carrots, or Swedish turnips, will yield from ten to twenty tons; say fifteen tons, which is by no means an exaggerated estimate. It has been ascertained by experiment that three working horses, fifteen and a half hands high, consumed in the rate of two hundred and twenty-four pounds of hay per week, or five tons one thousand and forty-eight pounds of hay per year, besides twelve gallons of oats each per week, or seventy eight bushels by the year. An unworked horse consumed at the rate of four and one-quarter tons of hay in the year. The produce, therefore, of nearly six acres of land is necessary to support a working horse by the year; but half an acre of carrots, at six hundred bushels to the acre, with the addition of chopped straw, while the season for their use lasts, will do as well if not better. These things do not admit of doubt. They have been subjects of exact trial.

"It is believed that the value of a bushel of Indian-corn in straw and meal, will keep a healthy horse in good condition for work a week. An acre of Indian-corn which yields sixty bushels, will be ample for the support of a horse through the year. Let the farmer, then, consider whether it be better to maintain his horse upon the produce of half an acre of carrots, which can be cultivated at an expense not greatly exceeding the expense of half an acre of potatoes, or upon half an acre of ruta baga, which can be raised at a loss expense than potatoes, or, upon the grain produce of an acre of Indian corn, or, on the other hand, upon the produce of six acres of his best land in hay and grain; for six acres will hardly do more than to yield nearly six tons of hay and seventy eight buskels of oats. This same economy might be successfully introduced into the feeding of our cattle and sheep.

"These facts deserve the particular attention of the farmers who are desirous of improving their pecuniary condition. It is obvious how much would be gained by the cultivation which is here suggested; how much more stock would be raised, how much the dairy produce might be increased; and how much the means of enriching the land, and improving the cultivation, would be constantly extending and accumulating. But when we find on a farm of two hundred acres, that the farmer cultivated only two acres of potatoes, one acre of ruta baga, and perhaps a quarter of an acre of carrots; we call this "getting along," in the common phrase, but we can hardly dignify it with the name of farming. I am aware that labor of a proper kind is in many cases difficult to be procured, and with our habits, as difficult to be managed. Farming, likewise, can in few situations be successfully managed, unless the farmer has capital to employ, equal at least, to one year's manure, and one year's crops. A large portion of our farmers also, from the nature of their habits and style of living, are so preposterous and independent, that they have no occasion to extend their cultivation beyond what it now is, in order to meet their wants, and to incur all the trouble, vexation, and risk of employing more labor, expending more capital, and increasing their cares."—*Farmer's Register.*

TO OUR AGRICULTURAL READERS.—Like every other science that of agriculture is progressive, and from the new energy which has been infused into the minds of the great communities who derive support from it in this and the enlightened countries of Europe, interests fresh, as elastic have been awakened. Incentives to action are held out which were before unkelt and unknowo. Physiology and chemistry have been called into requisition and are daily diffusing their lights over the paths of the husbandman, the better to enable him not only to comprehend his occupation, but to avail himself of countless substances whose virtues as manure have been hitherto but little appreciated. In a word it may be said, that the cause of agriculture is *onward*, and is daily receiving attentions and impulses which cannot fail to impart to the noble pursuit charms which, heretofore, it did not possess. Surrounded, then, as the art is by these new inducements to exertion, we feel that we may be indulged in calling again upon our patrons to favor us with detailed accounts of any experiments they may have made in the improvement of their farms. That the essays of practical men on the various branches of agriculture, nothing can be more interesting and instructive. It must be presupposed that all these experiments and improvements were based on theories previously formed, and after having been submitted to the unerring test of actual experiment, if successful, they come to us with all the imposing aids of practice, thus doubly challenging our respect and confidence. We are aware that many agriculturs entertain an aversion to appear before the public; that they are often restrained by motives of delicacy from giving the results of their labor to their brethren, and although we can appreciate their motives, still we must be permitted to remark, that public good should be suffered to prevail over personal considerations of the character we have described. Physiologists and chemists may unfold all the mysteries and beauties of their respective arts to no avail unless those who are practically engaged in cultivating the earth lend a helping hand, to test the principles inculcated by the former, and carry out into practice their respective theories, for theory without practice will ever remain deficient in beneficial results. And it is as evident, that however individuals may be benefitted, the community, as a great whole, will not be, unless publicity be given to the results of every experiment. Theories and principles may be conceived and laid down *ad infinitum*, without producing any substantive good unless they be reduced to practice and their efficacy promulged. Why then, should farmers and planters be influenced by false notions of delicacy from giving their experience to the world? Some, we know, are restrained from motives of misconceived fear, of submitting their writings to the ordeal of criticism; but this should not deter them; for no one whose opinion is worthy of deprecation, would assume so invidious a task. Hypercriticism is at all times disreputable, and would, when made to operate upon such productions, be doubly so. We say to our brethren of the plough, let not your light be hid under a bushel, for who is so competent to impart instruction upon matters connected with the culture of the earth, as those who are intimately acquainted with all its details? Surely not the mere book-worm or scholar. For ourselves, we can say, in all sincerity and truth, that we would rather read a communication from the pen of a thorough-bred practical farmer than one from the most learned *theorist* on earth, and for the simple reason, that we should be sure to get facts applicable to the real purposes of life. From our boyhood up it has been a fashion with us, to seize every opportunity of conversing with those who were engaged in the business of husbandry, and we candidly

confess, that we have never met with a man from whom we did not learn something that we appreciated highly. Every man who follows the occupation is capable of communicating something valuable to others, and why should he not add his mite to the common stock of agricultural information? We look upon it as a duty he owes to the community that he should do so, and, therefore, call upon all who patronise this work, to make it the medium of throwing their views before the country. Let no man wait for his neighbor to make a beginning but rather let each be ourselves to set so good an example.—*Amer. Farmer.*

CHEMICAL PRINCIPLES OF THE ROTATION OF CROPS.—Those plants ought to succeed each other which contain different chemical ingredients, so that the qualities of each which the soil at any given time contains may be absorbed in an equal ratio. Thus a productive crop of corn could not be obtained without the phosphates of lime and magnesia, which are present in the grain, nor without the silicate of potass, which gives stability to the stalks. It would be unnecessary, therefore, to sow any plant that required much of any of the above ingredients, immediately after having diminished the amount of them present in the soil by a crop of wheat or of any other kind of corn. But, on the other hand, leguminous plants, such as beans, are well calculated to succeed to crops of corn, because they contain no free alkalis, and less than one per cent of the phosphates. They thrive, therefore, even where these ingredients have been withdrawn, and during their growth afford time for the ground to obtain a fresh supply of them by a further disintegration of the subjacent rock. For the same reason, wheat and tobacco may sometimes be reared in succession in a soil rich in potass, because the latter plant requires none of those phosphoric salts which are present in wheat. In order, however, to proceed upon certain data, it would be requisite that an analysis of the plants most useful to man should be accomplished in the different stages of their growth, a labor which has hitherto been only partially undertaken. It is a curious fact that the same plant differs in constitution when grown in different climates. Thus, in the beet root, nitre takes the place of sugar when this plant is cultivated in the warmer parts of France. The explanation of this difference is probably as follows:—Beet-root contains, as an essential ingredient, not only saccharine matter, but also nitrogen; and it is probable that the two are mutually so connected together in the vegetable tissue that the one cannot exist without the other. The nitrogen, being derived from the decomposition of ammonia, must be affected by any cause which diminishes the supply of the latter, and in proportion as this ingredient is wanting, the secretion of sugar will likewise fall off. Now, it has been shown by Liebig that the formation of nitric acid is owing to the decomposition of ammonia; and it is conceived by him that the last products of the decomposition of animal bodies present themselves in the form of ammonia in cold climates, and in that of nitric acid in warm ones. Hence, in proportion to the amount of nitric acid formed, and of nitra absorbed by the plant, that of the nitrogen, and, consequently, that of the saccharine matter present in it may be diminished.—*Lectures on Agriculture, by Dr. Daubeny, Sibthorpian Professor of Rural Economy in the University of Oxford.*

ENGLISH AGRICULTURE.

WHATEVER opinion we may form of Britain—her pride, arrogance, insolence, presumption, vanity—faults, too, that will have to be amended within ten years by the compulsory process of a general alliance of nations against her; yet we must all confess that her agriculture is the most stupendous thing under heaven! When it is remembered that the crop of turnips grown in Norfolk alone is greater than the value of her trade with China; that the market price of the grass brought from the Lincolnshire fens, is more than her trade with Denmark; that you shall see as a *common thing* a hundred acres of tuttups, or a hundred acres of beans, or thirty acres of cabbages in a single field—a farm of 300 acres, all mown—or a farm of the same size, 300 acres, all in crops—the live stock on a single farm worth $30,000, twenty or more horses employed on one farm every working day in the year, and by means of thrice ploughing (heavy clays) turning 900 acres in a single year, I say, when this is remembered, it will be seen that 'great' as Britain is in every thing, the superlative degree of greatness is in her agriculture—in her soil, *naturally poor*, but made rich by the application of *capital* and unwearied assiduity, good sense and enterprise. While in this country, we fail most from the want of *capital*, and from the circumstance, that agriculture does not rank as an employment with others—especially with *trade*—it is not valued as it ought to be. The English contend, that it never was so valued in a democratic country; agriculture being, in their estimation, substantially an aristocratic employment; and it must be confessed that this is true of England, and perhaps of Europe generally. In England, to be wanting in the dignity conferred by *landed* possessions, is, to want that which conducts to the highest offices and the most exclusive society. The term *country gentleman*, is in England almost an actual patent of precedence; and so far do they carry this, that no man in trade can marry into a family of landed descent and possessions, unless he add to wealth an eminent character for talent.—*Far. Mon. Visitor.*

THE religion of the ancient Persians required its followers to plant useful trees—to convey water to dry lands—and to work out their salvation by pursuing all the labors of agriculture.

CHURCHILL & DANFORD'S HARVESTING MACHINE.



The above engraving gives a good idea of this invention. The object is to gather and thresh the grain in the field without cutting the straw.

The "rear" back wheel communicates motion to the machinery, as it revolves in going forward; all the gearing for this purpose is plainly seen in the engraving. The gathering and threshing apparatus is seen on the front "off" side. The former consists of several steell horizontal iron bars, connected at each end with an endless chain which moves around four small wheels, motion to which is communicated through the shaft at the top of the box, by a band from the gearing at the rear.

The cylinder for threshing is seen at the bottom of the box, moved by another horizontal shaft.—Over the forward wheels is a contrivance for raising and lowering the box, to accommodate it to the height of the grain. Over the gearing is seen a lever to throw the machine out of gear, when it is necessary to move forward without operating.—Two points are seen projecting in front, the length of the cylinder apart; as the machine moves forward, the near point is guided along the edge of the standing grain, the other divides off so much in breadth as can be gathered into the cylinder; the horizontal bars descend at proper intervals perpendicularly into the grain, below the heads, and then turning around the small wheels carry the grain backward by a horizontal motion, and bend it over the upper edge of the cylinder box, where it is instantly threshed.

A man is required to shovel the grain, as fast as threshed, back into body of the vehicle, and another to guide the team.

It gives us pleasure to present to the agricultural community a drawing and description of this machine, which promises to supersede all other modes of harvesting. The only objection that we have heard made to it, is that it wastes some of the grain. It must be remembered, that the first constructed machine had defects which have since been obviated, and that all the grain which this wastes appears at once and together, while in the ordinary method of harvesting, more or less is wasted each time it is handled, so the result is a saving of grain as well as an immense saving of labor.

Those who wish to make purchases we refer to Messrs Churchill & Danford's advertisement, who have taken out Patents for this mode of harvesting.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST.

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

AUGUST, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

JOHN DEAN CATON, of Will Co.,		President.
LEVI HILLS,	La Salle "	Vice Pres.
HOLDER SISSON,	Will "	
LEWIS ELLSWORTH,	Du Page "	
JAMES T. GIFFORD,	Kane "	
SETH WASHBURN,	McHenry "	
WM B OGDEN,	Cook "	Treasurer.
JNO. S. WRIGHT,	do.	" Rec. Sec.
Do.	do.	" Cor. Sec.

THE ELECTION OF TRUSTEES OF THE U. A. S.—The first election of Trustees occurs at the coming meeting. Those now in office were appointed under the act of incorporation; and some having gone "to the land of forgetfulness," others having removed from the district, others caring little for the institution, and others being inefficient, we conjour but anticipate prosperity to the Society from a change of dynasty. The election of Trustees is of the first importance; and with such selections as *ought* be made from among the farmers of the district, success could not but attend their efforts. Only a short time now intervenes before election; and it may be that some one who would be a first-rate Trustee, has as yet neglected to become a member. No time should be lost in seeing that all such are enrolled. Individuals in each county should make out lists of those two whom they would consider the best for Trustees, and see that they are all regular members.

This election will establish the character of the U. A. S. for several years. Should the right kind of men be elected a fresh impulse will be given to it, and its improvement will be certain and rapid; but if those of another character should be put in office, for want of better, it will be up-hill work; and much more strenuous exertions will be required to build up the Society, after having dragged along a sickly existence for a few years, than if energy and spirit were given to it now in its commencement. The strife between the counties should be, which shall furnish the best Trustees. Some of the old ones have been efficient; all such will of course be re-elected.

☞ No person can vote who does not subscribe for stock previously to the 6th of October. Read the act of incorporation in the first No.

A PLAN OF A FARM COTTAGE, with the elevation in perspective, prepared for this number, containing all the rooms and offices necessary for a farm, so arranged that it can be built at separate times, and still be complete, being a main body, wing and rear, each about 18 ft. by 24—is in the hands of the engraver, but is delayed to make way for Mr. Churchill's harvesting machine, as there is not time to engrave both. It will appear in the next number.

AGRICULTURAL CAPITAL.—What, in the hands of the farmer, constitutes capital, is an important query! With the merchant, cash is the capital, with the land owner, land is the capital, and with the farmer, cash, land, and stock, is usually considered the capital. But there are many other items that enter into the capital of the farmer generally overlooked, such as implements, manures, and the most important of all, labor. Capital may be productive or non-productive. A million of gold and silver locked in a strong box, or a thousand acres of uncultivated land, may be capital, but so long as the property remains in this state it produces nothing, and the owner may be actually growing poorer, instead of becoming richer. Increase of wealth does not depend on the quantity of capital so much as in the use made of it, and in nothing is this more observable than in farming. There is many a man who has commenced his career as a farmer with 50 acres of land, on this he annually expended in manure, labor, etc. 20 per cent and the produce was perhaps 40 per cent. Encouraged by this success, he added to his farm another 50 acres, but his expenditure in capital is not proportionally increased, and the profits are lessened in proportion. Still he has not land enough, and he keeps purchasing land, while he adds little or nothing to his active capital, and the consequence is, while on 50 acres of land, he realized 40 per cent., on 500 acres he realizes nothing. He has converted his productive into unproductive capital, and from his 500 acres he does not clear as much as he did from his 50 acres, or perhaps he actually falls behind. There is nothing more true than that the inordinate desire for large farms has been the ruin of thousands. It is true, that a large farm may be made as productive as a small one, but there must be the same proportion of capital in manure, labor, etc. put upon it, a thing rarely or never done. That part of the farm upon which most capital is expended is the garden, and this is clearly the most productive and profitable; and so with a small farm when compared with a large one. Let no one, therefore, desire to possess more land, or undertake the cultivation of more acres than he has capital to manage well. If he does, he will find he is rapidly sinking what little productive capital he possesses, and may become a poor man with the means of exhaustless wealth in his hands.—*Alb. Cul.*

THE GLEANER.

INCOMBUSTIBLE WASH.—Slack some lime in a large tub or barrel, with boiling water, covering the tub or barrel, to keep in all the steam. When thus slacked, pass six quarts of it through a fine sieve. It will thus be in a state of fine flour. Now, to six quarts of this lime, add one quart of rock or Turk's Island salt, and one gallon of water, then boil the mixture and skim it clean. To every five gallons of this skimmed mixture, add one pound of alum, half a pound of copperas, by slow degrees add three-fourths of a pound of potash, and four quarts of fine sand or hickory ashes sifted. We suppose any kind of good hard wood ashes will answer as well as hickory. This mixture will now admit of any coloring matter you please, and may be applied with a brush. It looks better than paint, and is as durable as slate. It will stop small leaks in the roof, prevent the moss from growing over and rotting the wood, and render it incombustible from sparks falling upon it. When laid upon brick work it renders the brick impervious to rain or wet.—*Yankee Farmer.*

SEED GRAIN.—If particular attention is paid in the selection of seed grain, it will better remunerate for time and expense than any other labor on the farm. Every one must have noticed the great difference in crops. What produces this difference? No doubt the quality of the land, the quantity of manure applied, and extra cultivation have a great influence; but it is not the only reason that can be assigned why one man reaps 12 bushels of wheat per acre, and another man reaps 35 bushels from the same quantity of land. The kind of seed planted effects the crop as much as the other circumstances named. Let him that doubts this assertion try a piece of corn, a field of rye, wheat, oats, or barley, with carefully selected seed, and another of equal quality, same manure, and same cultivation, with the same variety of grain taken haphazard, and the truth of our assertion will be apparent when the crops come in.

Sufficient care is not bestowed by cultivators upon this important subject. The quality of the seed that is planted as much deserves their care and attention as any other part of the business, and we do not hesitate to say, that farmers can better afford to pay $4 per bushel for some seed wheat, than to take other kinds as a gift, it is so with other kinds of grain. The crop of Indian corn, in particular, as hundreds of farmers can testify, depends greatly upon the kind of seed that is planted.

If the importance of selecting the best seed that can be obtained is admitted by our readers, now is the time to carry the idea out in practice, by selecting from the fields of grain that may be standing, and from Indian corn, that which appears the best, and inherent earliness, vigor of growth and productiveness.

It is while grains are growing, that the only true estimate of the value of any part of the crop for seed can be made.—*Yankee Farmer.*

TO SAVE SEEDS.—All seeds keep better in their seed vessels, but this can rarely be done, on account of the great space occupied. As soon, therefore, as the pods of cabbages, turnips, radishes, etc. turn brown, and a part becomes dry, the stems should be cut and laid on a cloth or floor to dry, and afterwards thrashed out and hung up in bags in some open, airy place. Lettuces should be pulled up with the roots, as soon as there is the least appearance of maturity, and hung up, and the plants will ripen all of their seeds, nearly at the same time. If left in the garden to ripen, the earliest and best will be lost; in fact, except under very favorable circumstances, very few will be obtained, as every shower and every strong breeze will lessen the quantity and scatter those which are mature over the whole garden. The same course should be pursued with leeks and onions. It is a prevalent opinion that the bush squash cannot be perpetuated among us, as such have a strong tendency to run, and will in one or two seasons become a vine.—This is a mistake, and originated no doubt, in the manner of saving the seed. If the first squashes which appear be retained for seed, there is no danger of the plant running the next season; but if these be used, and those which are borne at the extremes are preserved for this purpose, they will run, and moreover will be later in bearing. To have early fruit of either the squash, cucumber, or melon, the very first should be reserved.—*South. Agri.*

COUNT THE COST.—We saw about half a dozen men in Cambridge, raking a very smooth field, on which Mr. Cragin once kept his flock of sheep. There was a ton of hay to the acre.—Six men would call it a good afternoon's work to rake over six acres. Twelve men would rake twelve acres. Did any one of those men ever see one man with a horse do as much raking as twelve would do on such ground? Who have seen this done with a rake that costs but four dollars.—*Host. Cult.*

"MAKE HOME HAPPY."—It is a duty devolving upon every member of a family to endeavor to make all belonging to it happy. This may, with a very little *pleasant exertion* be done. Let every one contribute something towards improving the grounds belonging to their house. If the house is old and uncomfortable, let each exert himself, to render it better and more pleasant. If it is good and pleasant, let each strive *still further* to adorn it. Let flowering shrubs and trees be planted, and vines and woodbines be trained around the windows and doors; add interesting volumes to the family library; little articles of furniture to replace those which are fast wearing out; wait upon and anticipate each other's wants, and ever have a pleasant smile for all and each.

Make home happy! Parents ought to teach this lesson in the nursery, and by the fire side; give it the weight of their precept and example. If they would, ours would be a happy and more virtuous country.—Drunkenness, profanity, and other disgusting vices, would die away; they could not live in a lovely and refined home.

Does any one think, "I am poor and have to work hard to get enough to sustain life and cannot find *time* to spend in making our old house more attractive?" Think again! is there not some time every day which you spend in idleness, or smoking, or more listlessly, which might be spent about your homes? "Flower's are God's smiles," said Wilberforce, and they are as beautiful beside the cottage as the palace, and may be enjoyed by the inhabitants of the one as well as the other. There are but few homes in our country which might not be made more beautiful and attractive, not to strangers only, but to their inmates. Let every one *study* then, and *work*, to make *whatever place* they may be in, so attractive that the hearts of the *absent ones* shall go back to it as the Dove did to the ark of Noah.—*Amer. Farmer.*

TIMBER.—The right time to fell timber for rails, buildings, and agricultural uses generally, is when the sap is in full flow; when the bark ceases to peel freely, the felling should be stopped.

In support of this opinion, it is alleged, that the operation is performed at the time that timber will season the soonest; becomes harder and firmer in consequence of quick seasoning—the pores then being full of sap, the drying of which leaves behind something of a gluey kind, having somewhat the benefit of oil paint; being harder and firmer than if felled in the winter; the worm is longer deterred from commencing its depredations, which is the main cause of the decay of all timbers.

To fell timber when the bark does not peel freely, is at a time of the year which takes a longer period to season, in consequence of which, and the absence of the sap, it never becomes so hard and solid; hence the worm, the great destroyer of timber, commences its operations earlier.

In most of the newly settled timber countries, it was the general practice to leave valuable timber trees standing in the fields, which were girdled or deadened. This operation being performed when bark did not peel, the tree would stand up several years longer, than if done when it did, and hence arose the opinion, that the winter was the right time to fell timber, to increase its durability. If girdled when the sap is in full flow, the sudden stoppage leaves the trunk full of sap, a fermentation or sourness takes place, the bark prevents the escape of the moisture, the wood becomes soft, and the worm soon commences. Not so, if the operation is done in the winter.

A large beech tree may be girdled in the month of February, and one of the same character in every respect in the following May; the latter will rot two years sooner than the former. And so it would be, of two trees felled at the same periods, and left with the bark on; but if made into rails, (the bark taken off,) or for other purposes, the latter would be much the most durable.

We were recently informed by a gentleman who has had much experience in clearing beech land, that his practice was to girdle the beech trees and let them stand till they became dry and worm-eaten, then to fire them at the roots, and in most cases he assured us the fire would consume all but the roots.—*Selected.*

THE BOKHARA CLOVER.—In the Mark Lane Express of May 3d, just received at this office, we see a communication upon the giant Bokhara Clover, containing some items which, if true, induce us to believe it will be a valuable acquisition to agriculturists. It comes very early, grows five or six feet high, branches out into large crowns or heads, takes deep root and thereby defies drought, and yields a very abundant crop of hay. It is a new variety in England, and all its good and bad properties have not yet been fully described; as this kind of Clover becomes known in this country, we will take pleasure in laying every thing useful in relation to it before our readers.—*Ten. Agr.*

TO STOP WASHES AND GULLIES.—It is quite astonishing to see many farmers much injured by washes which might be stopped by very little trouble, if taken early, or if the right plan were pursued. Corn stocks, brush, loose stones, old logs, or almost any kind of rubbish thrown into ditches made by collections of running water, will have a salutary effect in preventing further violence, and frequently in stopping them entirely. Locust trees planted in gullies will soon take strong root, and eventually prevent further depredations. In addition to the advantage of putting an end to the wash in a few years, the farmer will have a delightful shade for his stock and valuable timber trees on his land. We have known Herds Grass (Red Top) sown in washes, and in a year or two, the roots had taken such strong hold as to prevent more injury. After noticing these items, each agriculturist will be the better able to judge of the extent of the gullies and washes in his fields, and apply the most suitable remedy.—*Ten. Agr.*

PREPARE FOR AN ORCHARD.—If you design planting out a young orchard this fall, the sooner you plough up the ground you allot for it the better. Let it be undisturbed until you are ready to set out your trees, then plough again, taking care to go as deep each time as your team will let you. If the means be within your power, *trench ploughing* should be resorted to the second time, as nothing more contributes to encourage the growth of young trees than a fine open soil to receive the lateral roots, as they may be formed. Upon the subject of setting out orchards, we should remark that, in our opinion, no one should attempt it without giving his soil a dressing of lime or ashes.—*Am. Far.*

TIME FOR TRANSPLANTING FRUIT TREES.—As the time for transplanting fruit trees is near at hand, and being somewhat conversant in the rearing and transplanting the same, I propose to give a little of my experience in the matter.

I have transplanted trees at various times in the spring and fall, and have come to the conclusion that early fall setting is the best, and in this opinion I find the most eminent Horticulturalists generally agree, as far as my researches have extended. The reasons why I think fall planting the best, are the following: If trees are to be purchased at a nursery, better trees can be obtained early in the fall than in the spring; they will grow more next season and stand the drought better. I put out over 200 in the fall of 1839, they were removed the latter part of September, and I never saw or heard of trees doing better. I measured a number of shoots the latter part of the next summer that were two feet ten inches in length, and one that was over three feet. Trees, however, will do well set in the spring, if set early; but let them be set in the spring or fall, it should be done early. Care should be taken that the roots do not get dry in removing, or frosted. If the roots of a tree get frozen while out of the ground, you will save time by throwing it to the brush heap.

The method I have pursued in setting is, in the first place, to stake out the ground, setting the stakes two feet north of the place where I want the tree to stand, then dig holes two feet square on the south side of the stake, breaking the soil one foot from the stake dig the hole two spades deep; put in two or three shovels full of fine manure in the bottom; fill in with mellow soil until it is raised so that when the tree is set out it will stand the same depth it was before it was removed, then grout the trees, that is, make a thin mortar of very rich soil, coat the roots of the trees in it, then immediately set them out, putting some more fine manure around the tree, but not in contact with it or the roots, as it might cause them to mould.

The land where young trees are set should be planted the first season. Corn is an excellent crop to put on the land, as it will shade the trees in the hottest weather, and they should be hoed the first season, after being removed, and staked, to prevent their being moved by the wind.—*Am. Far.*

NATIVE CASTOR OIL.—We were not aware till very lately of the extent to which this article is manufactured in Illinois. *A thousand barrels* are annually made in Randolph county as we have been informed. Castor beans are cultivated to a considerable extent in other counties in the southern part of the state, but what quantity of oil is manufactured we are unable to say. Twenty bushels to the acre are considered an average yield, and sell at from $1,00 to $1,25 per bushel. They are thought to be a good preparatory crop for the different grains, as they leave the soil in a good state, without in the least exhausting it. This article has one advantage over most other productions: the greater part of the work of harvesting can be done by children, without interfering with the ordinary operations of a farm. Great care, however, must be used in drying, and sheds or other out-buildings are requisite for this purpose. The season, so far south as Randolph county, our informant states, is about two weeks in advance of its coming in this latitude, and the cold of autumn delayed two weeks longer. He gave it as his opinion that, in consequence of this, the beans would not have sufficient time to come to maturity here. But if the season be somewhat shorter, the growth of vegetation is more rapid when it commences, and no doubt is entertained by those conversant with the subject, that our climate is well adapted to the production.

Some people are apprehensive that if the cultivation of the castor bean were introduced generally throughout the state, no market could be found for the oil, and imagine that a thousand barrels even, the produce of a single county, would be sufficient to physic the world. This is a mistake.—Till very lately it has been imported from Europe for medicinal purposes, and we believe is yet to some extent. But when this want is supplied, large quantities of it will be consumed as a substitute for sperm oil, the price of which is yearly increasing, in consequence of the destruction or disappearance of the whales from which it is obtained. To clarify castor oil is a very simple process, and then it is said to give a clearer light than sperm, and to be entirely free from offensive smell.—*Yankee Farmer.*

WHICH IS RIGHT? GROUND AND FLOOR STABLES.—L. Durand, in the Albany Cult., objects to ground floors, for the reason, as he says, that the "cleaner and dryer a horse's hoofs are kept, the better they will be preserved from disease, and I am certain they can be kept as dry on a floor as on the ground." According to this man's theory it must be a dangerous thing to horses' feet, for them to run as nature designed, on the moist ground in pastures and woods. When turned out to feed should they not have tight as well as whole boots on all their feet to keep the moisture of the earth from them, and so to prevent disease? Mr Durand is wrong. Horses feet require moisture. Nine tenths of the diseases which happen to the hoofs and ankles, are occasioned by standing on the dry plank floors of the stable. We know many *merciful* men, who think of the comfort of their horses as well as for their own interest so much, that when their stables are so situated that they cannot have their stalls come to the earth, they run a joist across the stable just below where the horses feet ordinarily stand, and keep that part of the floor between this joist and the rack filled with earth to the depth of three or four inches, and are careful to throw a pailful of water on to it every day, to keep it wet or moist. In this way the fore feet are preserved from the scratches, from pinching or binding, and from other diseases. You seldom know such diseases in the horses hind legs, for the reason, that the hind feet in any stable are always kept moist, by the natural voidances of the animal.

We are quite sure that if every person, in building a barn, would contrive to have the stables for his horses and cattle in a basement story, and allow no other floor for them to stand upon, but the ground, they would experience but few diseases of the feet. Besides stalls so constructed, are cool in warm weather, and warm in cold weather—that is, comparatively. And the comfort as well as the health of animals is necessary as a matter of good economy to their owners.—*Maine Cult.*

SWEDISH STABLES.—In Sweden the horse stables are never littered at all. The floors of the stables are planked: the planks perforated with holes, so that no wet can remain on them, and these planks kept clean are the only bedding allowed. To this method of treating their horses, (strange as it appears to Englishmen, or those who litter their stables carefully,) the Swedes attribute the soundness of their horses feet, as it is quite uncommon to meet with a lame or foundered horse in Sweden, that has been so stabled.—*N. E. Farmer.*

Perhaps some of our Farmers can decide the above question, as many of them are compelled to use stables without floors—if experience shews the ground to be as good as a floor—the economy of the thing will decide in its favor.

IMPORTANT TO MEAT EATERS.—A German Journal contains the following interesting details of domestic economy. According to numerous experiments made with different kinds of meat, it is ascertained that beef looses by roasting 22 1-6, mutton 24 1-5, lamb 22 1-6, goose 19 1-6, turkey 20 1-2, duck 27 1 6, chicken 14 1-5 per cent of their weight. By the process of boiling the loss is as follows: beef 15, mutton 10, turkey 16, chicken 13 1 2, ham 6 per cent. It is an erroneous notion that the English are generally better fed than the French; because, according to English writers on political economy, the average daily food of an Englishman consists of 8 1-2 ounces of beef or mutton, 10 ounces of potatoes, and 10 ounces of vegetables, which together, contain 65 per cent. of nutriment. French writers estimate the average daily food of a Frenchman as follows: meat 2 ounces, bread 8 ounces, vegetables 4 ounces, containing on an average 80 per cent of nutriment. The French therefore, on the whole are 15 per cent. better fed than the English.

QUALITY OF MILK.—Several cups have been successively filled while milking from one cow, producing the following results:—in every case, the quantity of cream was found to increase, in proportion as the process of milking advanced: in different cows, the proportion varied, but in the greater number the excess of cream in the last cup as compared with the first, was as 16 to 1; but, as in some cases the difference was not so much, a fair average might be considered as 10 or 12 to 1. And the difference in the quality of the two sorts of cream was no less striking, the cream given by the first-drawn milk being thin, white, and without consistence, while that furnished by the last, was thick, buttery, and of a rich color. The milk remaining in the different cups presented similar differences, that which was drawn first being very poor, blue, and having the appearance of milk and water, while that in the last cup was of a yellowish hue, rich, and to the eye and taste resembled cream rather than milk. It appears, therefore, from these experiments, that if, after drawing seven or eight pints from a cow, half a pint remains in the udder, not only almost as much cream will be lost, as the seven or eight pints will furnish, but of such a quality as gives the richest taste and color to the butter. This fact has been corroborated by chemical experiments, and holds good with respect to the milk of all other animals.—*Blacker's Essay.*

PRESERVING PORK.—The following hints respecting the preservation of pork, may be useful to some of your readers:

"It is generally the practice of farmers, I believe, to scald their old brine, before putting it on their pork; and so absolutely necessary is it supposed to be, by most people, that nothing short of the price of their pork, would induce them to use their old brine without first scalding it. Now, allow me confidently to say, that the idea is erroneous, and the practice entirely useless. If your old brine is sweet and good, and has kept your old pork good, depend upon it, it will keep the new. For that possible reason is there to suppose that brine which will keep old pork, will not keep new also? It may be said that the brine is full of matter which it has received from the old pork. True it is, and, therefore, it cannot extract the best juices of the new. For eight successive years I assisted in putting down pork, and pouring upon it the same brine, without being once scalded: and the older the brine is, the sweeter and better was the pork. The brine was always sweet, and had plenty of salt at the bottom. The pork was laid down in the usual manner, with salt, and the old brine poured back upon it. The advantages are, having better pork, besides a saving of labor and trouble.—*N. Gen. Farm.*

The most simple and perfect cure for the effects of the poison from the sting of a bee, is to wet a piece of indigo and rub on the spot, this will immediately relieve the pain, if applied soon, and prevent the swelling. The juice of a raw onion is also said to be equally efficacious.—*N. Gen. Farm.*

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

Those who make candles will find it a great improvement to steep the wicks in lime-water and saltpetre, and dry them. The flame will be clear and the tallow will not "run."

Britannia ware should be first rubbed gently with a woolen cloth and sweet oil; then washed in warm suds and rubbed with soft leather and whiting. Thus treated, it will remain as bright to the last.

New iron should be very gradually heated at first, after it has become inured to the heat, it is not likely to crack.

It is a good plan to put new earthern ware into cold water, and let it heat gradually until it boils, then cool again. Brown earthen ware, particularly, may be strengthened in this way. A handful of rye or wheat bran thrown in while it is boiling, will preserve the glazing, so that it will not be destroyed by acid or salt.

Clean a brass kettle before using it for cooking, with salt and vinegar.

The oftener carpets are shaken the longer they will wear; the dirt that collects under them grinds out the threads.

If you wish to preserve fine teeth, always clean them thoroughly after you have eaten your last meal at night.

Woolens should be washed in very hot suds, and not rinsed. Lukewarm water shrinks them.

Do not wrap knives and forks in woolens—wrap them in good strong paper. Steel is injured by laying in woolens.

Brass andirons should be cleansed, done up in papers, and put in a dry place during the summer.

When molasses is used in cooking, it is a prodigious improvement to boil and skim it before you use it. It takes out the unpleasant raw taste, and makes it almost as good as sugar. Where molasses is used much for cooking, it is well to prepare one or two gallons at once in this way at a time.

Never allow ashes to be taken up in wood or put into wood. Always have your lamp and under box ready to use in case of sudden alarm. Have your important papers all together where you can lay your hands on them at once, in case of fire.

Use hard soap to wash your clothes, and soft to wash your floors. Soft soap is so slippery that it wastes a good deal in washing clothes.

It is easy to have a supply of horse reddish all winter. Have a quantity grated while the root is in perfection, put it in bottles, fill it with vinegar, and keep it corked tight.—*Western Farmer.*

CHEMISTRY.—When butter is to be made, if a little old butter be put into the cream, the butter will come from much less churning. When soap is to be made, if a little old soap be put into the ley and grease, the soap will be made with considerable less boiling.—*Farmer and Gardener.*

TEA CAKES.—Melt in milk 2 oz of butter, mix with it a pound of flour, add one egg and a spoonful of yeast, make up the dough in small round cakes; flatten them a little; bake them on a buttin.

USEFUL RECIPES.

TO RELIEVE CHOAKED CATTLE AND HORSES.—Raise the fore-foot to relax the muscles of the legs; then tie a bit of whip cord, drum line, or other strong string round the arm, just above the knee: let go the foot, and if the horse or cow does not put it to the ground, a quick stroke with the whip will make it do so, and the operation is performed and the animal relieved.—But how? He will be relieved, I tell you, and that is sufficient. My crude notion is, the pressure of the hard cord on the nerves in the arm, creates the same sickening sensation in the animal that a stroke on the elbow causes in the man, the nausea relaxes the muscles of the throat, and the exertion of the animal causes it to throw off the substance with which it is choked.—*Nash Agriculturist.*

DURABLE CEMENT.—An esteemed friend has handed us the following recipe, which he says she has tried for several years with entire satisfaction.—*N. Haven Far. Gaz.*

For stopping leaks about chimneys, between buildings, etc. Two lbs. black lead, ½ lb. rosin, ½ lb. fine salt, and Japan varnish enough to dry it.

SALT FOR STOCK.—Animals should be well supplied with salt. It should be placed where they can at all times have access to it, or it should be given to them twice a week through the warm season.

Unbleached wood ashes, 8 quarts to be mixed with 1 quart of salt, is recommended as excellent for cattle, horses and sheep. It increases their appetite and prevents colts in horses, and rot in sheep.—*Yankee Far.*

DIARRHŒA.—People need not be long troubled with that disorder, so generally prevalent at this season, commonly known as the summer or bowel complaint, when the certain remedy therefor may be found on every man's dinner table, in the shape of salt and vinegar. Two tea spoonsful of the former, dissolved in half a gill of the latter, and swallowed at a draught, will in most cases effect an instant cure. The second dose, if needed, will assuredly accomplish it. We are ready to give our certificate in the premises, for we witnessed the proof. This recipe should be published annually, every summer.—*Nantucket Inquirer.*

WORMS ON TREES.—To make the bark grow over wounds and diseased places on forest and fruit trees without fail and with speed. When a branch is cut off, or a tree is otherwise wounded, make the place smooth with a sharp knife; and if the tree be cankered, either cut away the part affected, or scrape it out until you come to the sound wood. In all cases, make the surface as smooth as possible. Then put half a pound of tallow into two pounds of tar, and warm it over a fire till the tallow is just melted in the tar, when one ounce of saltpetre should be added, and the whole stirred well together. The composition must then be laid on the parts that you want to heal. This has been found, by long experience to be an effectual cure, and superior by far to any thing yet practised.—*Selected.*

PEARS.—*Little Musk, or Primitive;* of these I have two varieties, the Little Musk and the Primitive, but they are so much alike that I shall speak of them as the same. They are a small pear, ripe the last of June, grows in clusters, very productive, its chief excellence is its early maturity.

Summer Bergamot; of this I have two varieties, alike in appearance but differing in taste, they are about the size of a hen's egg, melting, juicy and high flavored. One kind, which I suppose is a seedling from the other, is a very vigorous tree, productive in fruit, which commences ripening for about the 4th of July and continues ripening for about a month. Although not as finely flavored as some other pears, yet coming at a time when fruit is scarce, and its productiveness, makes it desirable.

Early Bell is as large as a goose egg, ripe about the middle of July, the trees are very productive, the pear soon rotsin the middle after being ripe, only a tolerable eating pear, lasts only eight or ten days.

Stinkes pear, a small oblong pear, with a very thin skin, flesh half melting, of a sweet and pleasant flavor, very much injured by yellow

jackets and wasps, ripe about the middle of July and lasts but a few days.

Jargonelle, ripe in July, does not come up to the description of it in Kenrick and other works, it is likely that I have not the true Jargonelle, the pear is tolerably good, but the tree is not productive.

Catharine, is rather above the medium size, a fine fruit, ripe in August, is best when gathered before being fully ripe and allowed to ripen in the the house, the tree is of a very vigorous growth, but is a bad bearer, being more easily killed by frost than any pear on my farm.

Seckel varies in size from a guinea fowls egg to the size of a turkey egg; the fruit is melting, spicy and rich, the tree is very productive, bears early and constantly, ripens the first of September, and is in season the whole month.

Yellow Butter; this is an excellent pear, ripe at the same time with the Seckel, the tree bears early, full, and constantly; the fruit is in eating during the whole month of September.

Taylor; I have two kinds of pears of this name, both very excellent fruit though differing from each other. They take their names from the family that introduced them. They are ripe in October and can be kept until Christmas. The pear is very juicy, one of them very sweet and the other with some acid mixed with the sweetness. The tree of one of the kinds bears early and is very productive, the other kind, which is a little acid, does not bear so early nor is it so productive.

Winter Royal, is a large fine pear, very much like a Taylor pear in appearance, ripens in November and keeps until Christmas and probably would have kept much longer if they had been tried; they are juicy and sweet. My trees have only borne a few the two last years.

Muscat Allemand or German Muscat is a large pear, the flesh is melting and juicy, keeps well until late in the winter. My tree has only borne the last season and the last of the fruit was eaten about mid winter in a fine state of preservation.

I have a number of pears that have not yet borne, about which I will say nothing before seeing the fruit.

The pear tree is subject to a disease called the fire blight, which gives the leaves the appearance of having been blacked by fire, the best remedy with which I am acquainted, is to cut off the limb and burn it up, so as to destroy any insects or eggs that may be in it.

SAM'L. D. MARTIN.

[*Kentucky Farmer.*

AMERICAN WOOL PRODUCT.—To those who have paid the subject but little attention, the amount of money invested in the production of Wool within the United States, will seem surprising. It is very generally believed that this is quite a secondary branch of our general interest, instead of one of the most fruitful sources of our wealth, and best deserving the cherishing protection of our Government. As shewn by the returns of the late census, we have in this country, exclusive of North Carolina, Michigan and Kentucky, 19,085,962 sheep; and taking ten dollars as the average value of land necessary to sustain a sheep and make a fair allowance for the price of the animals themselves, for the labor necessary to their proper superintendence with that required to prepare their product for its first market, which are as much part of the investment as the land which sustains them, the aggregate amount of capital invested in this branch of industry will be at least two hundred millions of dollars. This is certainly an immense sum, and well deserves the attention of the General Government. At present England supplies us annually with some ten millions worth of broad cloths, and after all chooses to import her wool from the Continent, to the entire exclusion of our own. In 1839, her entire import of this article was 57,395,944 pounds, and while we had some 40,000,000 pounds of wool remaining at home, nearly two-fifths of the whole Woollen Manufactures of Great Britain came to the United States. And yet we have only about $15,000,000 invested in Woollen Manufactures Of the aggregate amount of wool grown in the United States in 1839, New York produced 4,012,144 pounds; Ohio 3,650,970; Vermont, 3,257,795, which, in proportion to her population, is much the largest amount grown in any State Pennsylvania 3 076 783; Virginia 2,672 044, Maine 1,465,551; New Hampshire 1,260 988; Indiana 1,202,269; Massachusetts 1,055,591. Tennessee 1,029 526; one the other States various amounts between the 893,675 pounds of Connecticut and the 45,524 of Louisiana.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

THE BORER.—In many sections of the country, this worm is so destructive to apple, peach and quince trees, as to discourage the farmer from planting them; and many young orchards are nearly destroyed. Numerous *cures* and *preventatives* have been, from time to time, published, and all have eventually failed; some, probably, in consequence of requiring more time, labor and money, than farmers generally are able to spare. A few years ago, fresh tar was highly recommended as a certain preventive; I have seen the experiment fully tried on a number of fine apple trees near a tan-yard, and they were nearly all destroyed by the worms. Unleached ashes, lime, rye, straw, and many other articles, have been found quite ineffectual. The old custom of raising a small mound around the tree in the spring, is the worst that can be adopted. The latest preventive that I have seen published, is tansy or wormwood planted around the trunk of the tree; I have not tried it, but I suspect it will not prove more effectual than hot lime, fresh tar, and other bitter doses.

Having been long familiar with the habits and operations of this destructive worm, and believing I have adopted the simplest, cheapest, and most effectual mode of preventing its ravages, I venture to offer it to the readers of the Cabinet, hoping some of them will be willing to try the experiment. Unfortunately for the orchardist, the theory that perfectly healthy plants will not be attacked by insects, will not apply in the case of the borer. On the contrary, it seems to be fond of the most vigorous and healthy trees; and often, after the farmer has carefully cultivated his young orchard for several years, and observed with pleasure its rapid growth, he is surprised and disappointed to find tree after tree falling prostrate, and he soon discovers that the trunk has been completely *girdled* just below the surface of the ground. The worm is partial to that part of the tree; only boring upwards above it at a certain period of its existence, when its change into a fly is about to take place; after which it eats a hole through the bark and escapes. This occurs during the fifth and sixth months, (May and June,) and the fly, which is remarkably active, lives through the summer, depositing its eggs in the bark of the tree at the surface of the ground. Therefore, the deeper the earth is above the roots, the higher up in the trunk the egg will be placed, and the greater will be the injury by the boring of the worm. On the other hand, if the trunk of the tree and the upper roots be kept perfectly bare, winter and summer, the fly will deposit its egg (if it performs the operation at all) in the roots, several inches from the body of the tree, and little or no injury will follow. My own experience enables me to assert, that a worm will very rarely be found in a tree with its roots those exposed; and the tree will flourish better than when planted deep. In transplanting trees from a nursery, great care should be taken not to plant them too deep; let the upper roots be so near the surface of the ground, that a little basin formed about the tree may expose the upper part of them to the sun and air.

S RHOADS, Jr.

Haddington Nursery, 5th mo. 1st, 1841.

Far. Cabinet.

THE FARMER is the most noble and independent man in society. He has ever been honored and respected from the days of Cincinnatus,—the Roman farmer, to the present time. This love and respect becomes more strong and ardent, as the country advances in learning, prosperity and refinement. He is not placed in that station which requires him ever to be seeking or courting popular favor, bowing and bowing to this or that man to gain their favor; but he looks upon the earth and the indulgent smiles of Heaven to crown his efforts, resting with the fullest assurance that "seed time and harvest" shall ever continue through all coming time. His heart is less tainted with that false and foppish pride that too often is allowed to corrupt and debase men in other walks of life. He breathes the balmy breezes of noon—he inhales the invigorating air of freedom—he can sing the sweet song of contentment, and shout happiness and good will without envy to every member of the great family of man. Such, reader, are some of the pleasures enjoyed by the "lords of the soil." His life like the seasons, is a continued round of enjoyment. One employment succeeds another, and all are peculiarly delightful in their own time and season. Variety gives beauty, taste and color to his whole course of existence. At each division of the year some new enchanting prospect is presented, which cannot fail to delight, arouse and elevate the mind, and render him of all mankind the most independent and happy.—*Monthly Visitor.*

CAUSE OF INFERIOR STOCK.—Some farmers sell or slaughter their best stock of cows, ewes or sows, and thus destroy all hope of improvement of a blow. Does a heifer show a disposition to fatten easily? she is encouraged by feed until fat, and is then sold or eaten, while her fellows of the breed of Pharoah's lean kine are kept for milk or rearing calves, because, they are not and cannot become fit for the butcher. Has a farmer a sow pig that becomes fat with the feed on which the rest of his swine are starving? he gives her over to the knife, and propagates from *lank sheds* and *rank cribs*. Has he a fine round, bright-eyed ewe? she will be fat about the time his bolt-filled pork barrels are empty, and she is stripped of her fine skin and fair proportions, simply because she is worth the trouble of killing, and thus many of our farmers perpetuate a breed of animals that are a disgrace to the country: they seem uneasy while they possess an animal that will draw the attention of their neighbors or the butcher; and woe be to it, if it has a better look than its fellows! Form that time its doom is sealed.

To improve the breed of animals, it is by no means necessary to incur a great expense in the purchase of crack stock from distant parts: if the farmer will take his horse and ride across the country, some fine day, and view the live stock of his neighbors, he will soon perceive that there are abundance of means of bettering his circumstances by a cross or exchange at but little cost, and he by this means is improving his judgment by comparison, and hoarding up experience for a future day that will be of more value to him than the expense of many such pleasurable excursions: and improvement once begun and persisted in for a short time, will produce such a correspondent *improvement* in the mind and circumstances of the farmer as will ensure its continuation and richly reward all his labor and outlay. It is only to try it.—*Selected.*

There is no quality which commands more respect than integrity; none more freedom and independance than economy; these with industry, are all that a man needs to depend upon; and should you make them the rules of your conduct, you must be successful, while without them you never can. He who depends upon continued industry and integrity, depends upon patrons of the most exalted kind. They are the creators of fortune and fame, and never will disappoint or desert you.—*Selected.*

MACHINERY.—The farmer's objection to machinery must be overcome. The day has passed by when it was imagined that the comprehension of a farmer did not extend beyond a hoe or an axe. One great reason why other arts have advanced so far beyond the noble science of agriculture, is because of the assistance they have derived from the adoption of labor-saving machinery.

The farmer of the present day, who would compete with his brethren, must be a mechanic. He works with tools and, therefore, is a mechanic. Many of his operations are complicated, and may be much facilitated by more or less of labor-saving machinery. Let not our friends be alarmed at the word—every tool is a machine—a plough, a saw, a plane, are labor-saving machines—simple in their action, effecting simple results. But other operations are required which may be much facilitated by the use of an implement, uniting in itself the ability to perform several operations, which must else be performed by hand. It becomes, therefore, *complicated*, and is supposed to be unfit for the farmer's use. At present, it frequently is, because no business on the face of the earth is conducted in such a slovenly manner as this favorite pursuit of agriculture. What would you think of a carpenter who did not know how to grind a chisel or whet a saw? Advise an individual, who has some capital, to commence the business of master builder, and he will tell you, "Sir, I have never served my time at the trade, I know nothing of the use of tools, and am totally unfit to take charge of a set of hands who are required to use them." Yet that same individual will embark his capital, unhesitatingly, in a business much more complicated, about the tools and implements of which he is still more ignorant. Why is this? Because, in the first case, he knows that he would encounter skill with which his ignorance could not compete, and in the latter his products came in competition only with those of persons as ignorant as himself. We want schools of agriculture—opportunities of serving an apprenticeship to this complicated, scientific, raccbaucal trade or profession, upon which all others depend. Nature may make *poets*, but, depend upon it, she has never yet tried her hand at *farmers*. A genius may be self-taught, but to expect the great mass of mankind to arrive at excellence in so complicated a branch of the arts, by their own unassisted exertions, is the height of folly. If, instead of the rude unskilful bodies who now cultivate the earth, you could make every farmer a master workman, thoroughly skilled in his business, the wealth of the country would be more increased than it can ever be by tariffs, created by legislative enactments: and he, who devotes his mind to effecting this great desideratum, will do more for his country than can ever be accomplished by visionary schemes of producing wealth without labor.

We are daily brought in contact with individuals who are called *good farmers*, who are ignorant of the simplest principles of mechanics. Many of them do not actually understand the principles of a plough, are not aware when it is out of order, and could not for the soul of them superintend the grinding of an axe. Show them a labor-saving machine, which requires a small degree of mechanical skill to operate it properly, and they turn away in disgust. "Such a machine," say they, "will never answer when we're negroes; it is not worth while to examine it." But can't you teach your negroes to manage it? No: because I am as ignorant, as lazy, and careless as they are, should be the reply. We firmly believe that two-thirds of the labor now employed in agriculture could be saved by the use of machinery—but never by such as is to be operated only by men, who will not learn to comprehend and teach others that principle upon which one cog wheel drives another.

We are very often asked could not a machine be contrived to perform such and such an operation? Yes, without any difficulty. Could it be worked by negroes? We answer no. Nor by white men either, unless they will take the pains to understand it and keep it in order. What an exalted opinion must such persons entertain of the capacity of their negroes, to imagine that, without instruction, they can understand and manage a machine required to perform at once the work of a half dozen different hands. This is a perfection to which we solemnly believe neither negroes nor machinery will ever arrive, at least, in our day.

There are undoubtedly differences in machines, and simplicity is the great desideratum. Many of them are entirely worthless either from defect of principle or indifference of workmanship, and if the farmer discards all because he has not learned to distinguish between the good and the bad he is to be pitied for his ignorance, and must be content to remain in the rear of those better skilled in his profession. We have generally found that active, industrious, practical farmers were the men to appreciate a valuable improvement in agricultural machinery, the principles of which they make it their business to understand thoroughly, whilst the mere theorist, who, full of science, lays in bed until 10 o'clock in the day, very properly declines putting such an article into the hands of his negroes, who would probably destroy it while he was asleep.

In short, farmers must second the efforts of inventors to apply science to agriculture, and this can be effected only by their becoming thoroughly versed in those mechanical principles that are applicable to their profession.—*Southern Planter.*

CLOSE CALCULATION. The St. Louis Gazette goes into a calculation to shew the amount of tobacco a man chews in a lifetime. The editor says: 'Suppose a tobacco chewer is addicted to the habit of chewing fifty years of his life, each day of that time he consumes two inches of solid plug, which amounts to 6375 feet, making nearly 1 1-4 miles in length of solid tobacco, half an inch thick and two inches broad.' He wants to know what a young beginner would think if he had the whole amount stretched out before him, and he were told that to chew it up would be one of the exercises of his life, and also that it would tax his income to the amount of $10957 We guess he would think it a pretty considerable of a job.

CROPS.—The wheat harvest, it may now be confidently said, will yield more than an average crop, notwithstanding partial failures in Virginia, in Pennsylvania, and in this State. Small parcels of the new crop at the South have already come into market, and have been sold for from 118 to 125 cents a bushel. The product of the United States in bread, corn and other vegetable food, is thus stated in the recent census:

Bushels	Wheat raised in the U. S.	76,174,849
Do.	Rye,	17,037,600
Do.	Indian Corn,	297,855,668
Do.	Oats,	106,376 192
Do.	Buckwheat,	6,952,326
Do.	Barley,	3,848,149
Do.	Potatoes,	101,981,439

From the data here furnished, making a fair allowance for the States and Territories not included in the statement, it appears that nearly four bushels and a half of wheat are raised for each inhabitant; of other grain, nearly thirty bushels to each inhabitant; and of potatoes about six bushels and a half to each inhabitant; making an aggregate of forty-one bushels of grain and potatoes to each inhabitant, including men, women and children, bond and free. From such a surplus, it is obvious there will be much ready for export, if any opening should offer.—*N. Y. American.*

Cultivate a little land *well*, and it will be more profitable in proportion to the labor expended, than the cultivation of much land carelessly. The doing of any thing unfaithfully is bad policy. This skimming over a large surface, building long fences, paying high taxes, and traveling over much land to secure what might be secured on half the same land, with half the plowing, half the hoeing, half the fencing, half the taxes and half the traveling, is the way for farmers to complain *with reason* that their business will hardly support them.—*Maine Cult.*

CULTURE OF TOBACCO, *continued from page 56.*—When tobacco is ripe and fit to be cut, there are around the roots of the plants several leaves nearly cored. They can now be saved either before or after it is cut. Tobacco should have no leaves taken from its roots until it is ripe; taking away the leaves too early stops the growth. The tobacco saved from around the roots of the plant is called *ground leaf*. The usual way of saving this kind of tobacco, is to pull the leaves by hand from the roots of the plants, and tie them up in small bundles, and straddle them across a stick, until they are cured enough. When fine ground leaf is cured, the usual way is to select the largest leaves that are about half cured, and run a peg three or four inches long through the large end of the stem, filling the peg with leaves, but leaving a space of about half an inch between them, and then hang them across tobacco sticks.

The best time of the day to gather ground leaves, before the tobacco is cut, is late in the day, about an hour from sunset; when the tobacco ground is wet, the leaves are at this time of the day in order to be gathered.—Leaves gathered when the dew is on them, will injure before they get dry. Tobacco, when being cut, should not, if it can be prevented, be suffered to *fall* too much—that is, lie on the ground until the leaves become very limber; for when they become too much so, they clam around the stalk, and the tobacco will not cure so good by it. A great deal of care is necessary while tobacco is being cut and carried to the house; it must not be suffered to lie in heaps and heat. While laying in the field, if the sun shines hot at the time, it will be hurt by the sun, if permitted to lay too long. When hauling it to the house, the loads should not be large as it will bruise when hauled in large loads. I have seen some persons have bushes with green leaves laid in the bottom of their carts before the tobacco was put in the cart. This was done to prevent the tobacco from being bruised.

There are three ways in use for hanging the tobacco plants on the stick, one way is, by splitting the stalk before the plants are cut, another way is to put a peg in the big end of the stalk; this is a tedious way and though in old times the only way used, has now nearly gone out of use. The other way is to put a sharp pointed iron spear, with a socket like a chissel on a tobacco stick, and then run the plants on the stick, by running the iron spear through the stalk of the plants. This is the quickest way of the three, but unless there is a considerable space left between the plants, the tobacco will injure. The most careful hands should only be permitted to stick tobacco in this way. Those hands who could not be trusted to put tobacco on the sticks, could be engaged in the tobacco field at other work.

The splitting of the stalk, and afterwards straddling it across a stick, though not so quick a way as the one just mentioned, is a better way for several reasons, one is, the plants can be easily regulated when they are put in the house; another is, the tobacco cures quicker, and when housed late is not so apt to be frozen in the house. It does not require so much judgment when putting the plants on the stick. The tobacco, also, is much easier to get off the stick when it is wanted to strip.

We will now suppose the tobacco to be housed and cured and ready to be stripped, that is, taking the leaves from the stalks; whenever the tobacco is moist enough, or in planter's language, in *order*, this can be done. The different kinds and colors must be tied up in seperate bundles, and each kind put away by itself. After tobacco is stripped, care must be taken to prevent it from heating in the hulks, which it quickly does in warm weather if put away in too moist a state. If it should begin to get warm it should be taken out of bulk immediately and put into situation to cool and dry. If bulks of tobacco should heat in warm, wet weather, and the weather continues so, the best way then is to straddle the bundles across sticks and hang them

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* Sweet potato vines make a good tie.

np tn the house. Tobacco of a fine color and good leaf should never be suffered to heat in bulk: for the color, as well as the leaf, is considerably injured thereby. Tobacco of a dull color and coarse leaf is not injured so much by heating in bulk; though heating in bulk injures any tobacco more or less; the old notion that tobacco was not in condition to pack in hogsheads, until it had heated in bulk, is entirely erroneous. Tobacco may be packed without injuring in the hogshead, if properly dried after being stript from the stalks, indeed tobacco, after it is stript, requires a great deal of attention to manage it properly; and it managed properly until it is in the house and cored, may be by improper management or neglect, made to be worth less money, after this time. I have seen tobacco myself put up in bulks, and suffered almost to rot before eny thing was done to it. It is principally the management and handing of tobacco after it is cured, that makes the distinction between a nice planter and an indifferent one.

When bulking tobacco, the leaves should be kept straight, and the bundles spread open, somewhat like a fan, which can easily be done, by placing two or three bundles at a time, by the person who is handing the tobacco to the bulker, against his breast and giving them a stroke down with the other I have found the best way to condition tobacco when stript, to be as follows: Take two tobacco sticks and lay them parallel and about one foot apart, then bulk on them about one hundred pounds, by placing the bundles across the sticks. The tobacco should be knock'd down, two persons can move these bulks wherever wanted, by taking hold of the ends of the sticks: Tobacco when bulked in this way, if not very moist, will not want any thing more done to it until wanted to pack, especially if the bulks are put up on the *tiers* of the barn, which can be easily done by lifting them up by the tobacco sticks. After tobacco has been bulked in the way here recommended, the small bulks should be on a drying day taken and opened, and the tobacco laid down by hand on the large bulking places. Bulking places should be fixed for the different qualities, and as the small bulks are pulled to pieces, the different qualities should be placed apart from each other. Though in bulking on sticks as recommended, each quality as near as can be at that time ascertained, should be bulked to itself. In moving tobacco from the smaller to the larger bulks, the large bulks should, if the tobacco is very moist, have only three or four courses of bundles of tobacco placed on them at one time: after they have dried somewhat, three or four more courses can be placed in the same manner, and the operation repeated as long as necessary. Thus a barn of tobacco may be conditioned in this way without any of the tobacco heating.

The best directions that can be given about packing tobacco in hogsheads, are that the tobacco should only be moist enough to keep it from crumbling, and that fine tobacco should not be pressed so hard as to bruise it. Tobacco, though often packed before, is hardly condemned enough before the month of May.

I shall now make such remarks on the cultivation of tobacco, and the management of the plantation as have been omitted in the preceeding part of this essay.

Plaster of Paris on suitable land, acts well on tobacco, though it will not cure so fine a color it there is a great deal of plaster put on it while in the field. When there is much litter in the land a small quantity of plaster is of great service, as it gives the tobacco a healthy growth which otherwise would be sickly. Some planters sow the land with plaster before the tobacco is planted, and afterwards plaster the plants, after they are transplanted. This way makes a heavy crop, but it will not cure so fine as it would have done with less plaster. I have generally found that a large spoonful is enough, if put in the bud of the plant directly after being *seed-aut*.

When manuring tobacco land with manure, that is well rotted or with ashes, the best time to put it on is when the land is ready to be laid off for making the hills. The plough then throws the manure where the hill will be when made.

I have said that plant beds should be sowed in March: they may in case of accidents, be sown much later and yet bring plants in time. In the year 1826, I had most of my plants killed by a spell of freezing weather, about the middle of April. About the 18th or 19th day of the same month. I burnt and sowed a bed in low land. I selected the place along the margin of a branch for the purpose of having water at hand to water the bed if necessary: for late in the Spring as it was, I knew it would only be by great attention that the plants would come in time. It so turned out that little or no rain fell until near the last of June, and I regularly, every evening, watered the bed: by the middle of June the plants were large enough to plant, and if there had been a planting season, at that time, a great many plants, could have been planted for the use of the bed, out of it. I knew a bed that was sown in Feb. 1820 the plants came up in March; on the 2d day of April, a snow storm commenced which lasted all day, snow fell to the depth of five or six inches, which was succeeded by a cold North-west wind. Nearly every plant in the bed was killed; in a few days it was dug up and sowed, as soon as the plants got up the bed was cleaned of them, by the flies; about the 8th or 10th of May, the bed was dug up and sown again: by the middle of June, there was a smart drawing of plants taken from it, and by the last day of June, a crop of 15 or 20 hogsheads of tobacco planted out of it I give these two instances to show that plants may be raised in time, in case of accidents, although sowed very late in the season.

It seems superfluous to say that a planter should provide and keep on his plantation the best of agricultural implements; for every mechanic, artizan, and agriculturist should provide himself with the best of tools, for it has been remarked that none but a rich man can afford to work with an indifferent tool! Of all others a planter stands most in need of labor saving tools and machinary. For tobacco requires a great deal of labor and attention to produce it of a fine quality; how much labor is often lost by giving a hand an indifferent axe or worn out hoe to work with, how much more ploughing can be done and how much better with a plough in good order, than with one worn out. How much time is often lost in sending to a neighbor's to borrow a spade, or to grind axes, for want of a grindstone at home. Half the time lost in this way, in the course of a year, would, if employed in some useful labor, more than purchase a spade and grindstone. But it is not only to these little matters that a planter's attention should be called, as tobacco puts it out of his power to devote as much time as he would wish, to the raising of food for his family, workmen, and animals. He ought to provide such machines and utensils as will enable him to prepare his food for his animals to the best advantage.

I must again say, that it should be the greatest object with a planter to have his tobacco crop grow quickly after it is planted: tobacco that grows slowly is apt to become diseased (for tobacco, like other vegetables, is subject to disease,) and will not cure of a fine color. To make fine tobacco requires great attention to what would seem to be small things. For instance, the setting of a tobacco plant in the hill may retard its growth considerably. Put the main root in the ground doubled like a staple, if it live at all, it will have to grow an entire new root before the leaf grows any Or set a plant too deep in the ground if it does not rot and die it will be a long time before it begins to grow, when a crop of tobacco is ready for the house early, there is more time to take care of it: there is no danger of its being spoiled by being caught in frost—the plants will be entirely cured before very freezing weather commences—consequently, there will be none to freeze in the house. A forward crop likewise can be stripped early, and of course the sooner got ready for market.

As I am about to close, I must say, there is nothing recommended in my essay that is far-fetched; to an experienced planter, the most of it will appear common-place, but to young planters, it will give many a useful hint.

Young men, when commencing any business, stand in need of the experience of those who have been engaged in the same kind of business before them.

NOTE.—The words in italic are technical terms used by tobacco growers.

FATTENING ANIMALS.—There are some rules which may be advantageously adopted in feeding animals, which however obvious they may be, are too often passed over, or neglected. Some of these will be specified; and

1st. *The preparation of Food*.—This should be so prepared that its nutritive properties may be all made available to the use of the animal and not only so, but appropriated by the least possible expenditure of muscular energy. The ox that is obliged to wander over an acre to get the food he should find on two or three square rods—the horse that is two or three hours eating the coarse food he would swallow in fifteen minutes if the grain was ground, or the hay cut as it should be—the sheep that spends hours in making its way into a turnep, when if it was sliced it would eat it in as many minutes—the pig that eats raw potatoes, or whole corn, when either cooked, could be eaten in one quarter of the time now used, may indeed fatten, but much less rapidly than if their food was given them in a proper manner All food should be given to a fattening animal in such a state, that as little time and labor as possible, on the part of the animal, shall be required in eating

2nd. *The food should be in abundance*—From the time the fattening process commences, until the animal is slaughtered, he should never be without food. Health and appetite are best promoted by change of food rather than by limiting the quantity. The animal that is stuffed and starved by turns, may have streaked meat, but it will be made too slowly for the pleasure or profit of the good farmer.

3rd. *The food should be given regularly*.—This is one of the most essential points in feeding animals. If given irregularly, the animal indeed consumes his food, but he soon acquires a restless disposition, is disturbed at every appearance of his feeder, and is never in that quiet state so necessary to the taking on of fat. It is surprising how readily any animal acquires habits of regularity in feeding, and how soon the influence of this is felt in the improvement of his condition. When at the regular hour the pig has had his pudding, or the sheep his turneps, they compose themselves to rest, with the consciousness that their digestion is not to be unseasonably disturbed, or their quiet broken by unwonted invitation to eat

4th *The animal should not be needlessly intruded upon between the hours of feeding*.—All creatures fatten much faster in the dark than in the light, a fact only to be accounted for by their greater quiet — Some of those creatures that are the most irritable and impatient of restraint while feeding, such as turkays and geese, are found to take on fat rapidly when confined in dark rooms, and only fed at stated hours by hand There is no surer proof that a pig is doing well, than to see him eat his meal quickly and then retire to his bed, to sleep or cogitate until the hour of feeding returns Animals while fattening should never be alarmed, never rapidly driven, never be fed at unseasonable hours, and above all things, never be allowed to want for food.

I consider every man who makes some new agricultural improvement—every man who is instrumental in promoting the cause of agriculture —as the most deserving of approbation. The farmer's enjoyment from the improved culture of the ground, is greater than what arises to men employed in other kinds of business; and this might be much increased, if they would expend a portion of labor and expense in beautifying and adorning the lands which the Almighty has blessed with fruitfulness under their hands.—*Dr. Channing*.

Purity of heart is of all virtues the most elevated A Greek maid being asked what fortune she would bring her husband answered, " I will bring him what is more valuable than any treasure- a heart unspotted, and virtue without a stain, which is all that descended to me from my parents.

NIGGER FILOSOPHY —' Talking of law,' says Pompey, ' makes me tink o' what ole mortel Cato, who lib more den a thousand year ago, say Him say, de law is like a ground glass window dat give light nuff to us poor errin' mortals in de dark passages of dis life; but it would puzzle de debil himself to see froo it.'

CAUSE AND EFFECT.

(Scene in a School Room.)

BOY —*(reading)* T-e-a—

TEACHER —Well what does t-o-a spell?

BOY.—I don't know, sir.

TEACHER.—What does your father drink in the morning?

BOY.—Rum, sir.

TEACHER —T-e-a spells tea. Well read the next

BOY —G l-a-s-s—

TEACHER.— Well what does that spell?

BOY —Don't know,,

TEACHER —What is in the window at home?

BOY.—Why—rag-.

THE MARKET

The price of Wheat has varied since our last from 80 to 87½ cents. It is now worth 85 cents. The price of freight to Buffalo remains at 25 cts. per bushel, notwithstanding there were more than 30 vessels and steamboats in port yesterday. Corn is worth 37½; Oats, 22; Potatoes, 18¾; Buttur, 10; Salt, from $2 to $ 2 12½; Dried Apples, $1 to $1 25; Lumber, $8 to $16. Dry Goods and Groceries are plenty.

October 5, 1841.

MEETING OF THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE Annual Meeting of the Stockholders and Trustees of the Union Agricultural Society, is to be holden at Naperville, commencing on Wednesday the 20th Oct next, at 10 o'clock, A M.

The election of Trustees and officers will then be held, in connexion with the Cattle Show and Fair, as advertised by hand-bills, and in the June No. of the Union Agriculturist.

A general attendance of the members and friends of the Institution will be expected.

By order of the President,

JOHN DEAN CATON

JNO. S. WRIGHT, Rec. Sec.

☞ The papers in the district, friendly to the enterprise, are requested to give the above an insertion from this time to the day of meeting.

STOVES FOR SALE.

A RAILWAY COOK STOVE, with Copper Furniture, complete.

A LARGE FRANKLIN STOVE.

A WILSON COOK STOVE.

They have all been used some, and will be sold for Cash or Produce

J. S. & T. WRIGHT

LUMBER FOR SALE.

AN Assortment of Seasoned Lumber, at market prices.

J. S. & T. WRIGHT

FOR SALE, a BERKSHIRE SOW, nearly three years old with seven full blood pigs, 8 weeks old; a NEAPOLITAN SOW two years old, and a LEICESTERSHIRE SOW one year old: the two last with pig by NICHOLAS a full blood Berkshire Boar, who is also for sale. J. S. & T. WRIGHT

CHURCHILL & DANFORD'S "IMPROVED MODE OF HARVESTING,"

THIS mode of Harvesting consists in threshing the grain while standing, without cutting the straw, and saving the grain in the chaff, no cutting machinery being used.

This improvement has been thoroughly tested during the past harvest; its success has surpassed the hopes of the most sanguine, and will, in a short time, be the only mode of harvesting.

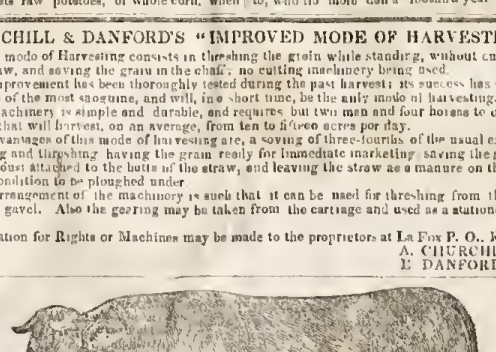
The machinery is simple and durable, and requires but two men and four horses to operate a machine that will harvest, on an average, from ten to fifteen acres per day.

The advantages of this mode of harvesting are, a saving of three-fourths of the usual expense of harvesting and threshing having the grain ready for immediate marketing, saving the grain free from the dust attached to the butts of the straw, and leaving the straw as a manure on the field in a good condition to be ploughed under

The arrangement of the machinery is such that it can be used for threshing from the stock, stook, or gavel. Also the gearing may be taken from the carriage and used as a stationary horse power.

Application for Rights or Machines may be made to the proprietors at La Fox P. O., Kane Co., Illinois.

A. CHURCHILL,
E DANFORD.



GREAT SALE OF DURHAM CATTLE AT AUCTION.

I will sell at Public Auction on Wednesday the 13th October next, immediately after the Fair, to be held at Col. Allen's Farm, one mile North of Springfield, FIFTY-THREE Head of Durham Cattle, Cows, Heifers and Bulls, Twenty-one of which are

FULL BLOOD DURHAM SHORT HORN,

the others grade from half to fifteen sixteenths.

The Stock is now on my Farm, seventeen miles West of Springfield, on the Jacksonville road, where it can be examined at any time previous to the sale.

This will afford a favorable opportunity to any one wishing to improve their Stock, to make selections.

Terms—Twelve months credit for satisfactory joint notes. I pledge myself that the Sale shall be bona fide, without reserve or a bye bid. Pedigrees furnished on day of sale.

H G BOWERS.

Island Grove, Sangamon co, Sept. 20, 1841.

I HAVE procured the superior blooded Short-Horn Bull,

BULWER,

Of Dr. Samuel D. Martin, of Clarke County, Kentucky, and will permit him to serve a few Cows at $10 each, at my residence, 12 miles East of Pinknoyville, and 3½ miles from the road leading from Shawneetown to St Louis.

PEDIGREE OF BULWER.

He was bred by Dr S D Martin, calved 21st of May, 1838, and was got by Rifleman (2532) dam Desdemona 2d,* bred by Col Powel, by Bertram, (1716) granddam Zaluda bred by Col Powel, by Mahomin, (1190,) g granddam Desdemona, bred by Mr Whitaker, of England, and imported into the United States by Col Powel, by Frederick, (1030); g g grandam Delia, bred by Mr Whitaker, by Cleveland, (146); g g g grandam Red Daisy, bred by Mr Hustler, by Major, (398), g g g g grandam Strawberry by Windsor, (896); g g g g g grandam Old Daisy, bred by Charles Colling, by Favorite, (252); g g g g g g grandam by Punch (331); g g g g g g g grandam by Hubback, (319)

Desdemona 2d, the mother of Bulwer, gave 32 quarts of milk a day. Dr. Martin refused fifteen hundred dollars for Desdemona 2d.

The bull of Rifleman, the sire of Bulwer, was sold by Dr Martin to J G Taylor for seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Red Daisy gave 32 quarts of milk a day.—Mr Hustler refused an offer of four hundred guineas for her.

For further particulars concerning the milking qualities of his Ancestry, see extended pedigree of his father Rifleman, and his brother Bertram 4th

I have also nine thorough-bred Cows, all bred by Dr Martin, which I am breeding to Bulwer, and shall have several Bull Calves for sale this fall.

I can supply the farmers with the full blooded Durham stock at all times, as fine as can be bought in the United States, with undoubted pedigrees; (this is easily understood by referring to the English Herd-book, or the Kentucky Stock-book;) in place of travelling into Ohio, New York or Kentucky.

Come and examine my stock

G. W. FAGG.

Poplar Grove, Perry co., Ill.

May 18, 1841.

The Union Agriculturist
AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

VOL. I. CHICAGO, SEPTEMBER, 1841. NO. 9.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, EDITED BY THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, THE ORGAN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TERMS.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance.* Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid.* Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1,50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance.* Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

PROTECTING HOME INDUSTRY.—Mr. T. B. Wakeman, the Secretary of the American Institute, presented us with the following circular. We shall look with much interest for the result of the meeting. The protection of home industry is a subject of the first importance to the agriculturist, the manufacturer and the mechanic.

THE MANAGERS OF THE 14TH ANNUAL FAIR OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, TO THE FRIENDS OF HOME INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

By the special vote of the Institute, it is made our duty to invite the friends of Home Industry to meet in Convention in the City of New-York, some time during the approaching Fair.

The 5th day of the Fair, Friday, Oct. 15, at 10 o'clock, A. M., has been selected as a convenient and suitable time for the meeting of the Convention.

The objects in inviting a Convention have been already briefly stated in our general circular, one of which is not to advance any particular interest without a proper regard to others, but to seek out and recommend such measures as will most benefit the great whole.

The frequent and distressing fluctuations in our business transactions, occasionally attended with general embarrassments, bankruptcy, and severe suffering, which seem so utterly inconsistent with our abundant resources and capabilities, should be traced in their cause, and if within the power of the people, a remedy should be applied.

The unnatural and unjust inequality in the Commercial Laws regulating our trade with foreign countries, it is believed by the Institute, will continue to derange our industry, and subject us to impoverishment, until counteravailed by effective duties on importations from countries which exclude our productions, or burthen them with excessive duties. The pernicious effects of these unequal laws are increased by the peculiar character of our circulating medium, which is the measure of the value of all our possessions. We cannot suddenly work an essential change in this measure of value without violently affecting the relations of our whole social system. But it is in our power by union, quietly to counteract these unequal laws by national legislation, and thereby to lessen those distressing fluctuations caused by their operations on our currency and domestic industry.

Delegations are invited from all the States,—the cotton growing as well as the grain-growing, manufacturing, and commercial, from cities, counties, towns, and agricultural as well as mineral improvement associations.

The Delegates, on their arrival in this city, are respectfully requested to report themselves to the Committee at the Managers' Room at the Fair.

James Tallmadge, C. C. Haven, Dudley Marvin, George Bacon, Clarkson Crolius, Loring D. Chapin, Horace Greeley, Jacob T. Walden, Edward Clark, George F. Hopkins, J. H. Raymond, John Travers, R. Lockwood, Committee of Arrangements for the Convention.

MATERIALS FOR HEDGING.—A spirit of inquiry about live fences, having been awakened to a considerable extent in the West, we have thought information as to the best materials would be very acceptable, and having had but little experience upon the subject, we have examined everything we could get, and give the following as the results of the examination.

The Hawthorn or White thorn of England, *(cratægus oxyacantha,)* is there considered much the best material of all others; and we should judge very little else is used. But in the U. S., at least in the Eastern States, it is very liable to be attacked by the borer, and is much affected by blight. How it succeeds at the South, we have been unable to learn; but in the East, its use is dispensed with, and several have been very successful with

The Buckthorn, (rhamnus cathartirus.) The first experiment in hedging with this variety, was made by Ezchiel Hersey Derby, Esq., of Salem, Mass., in 1809, since which time he has improved upon his first experiments, and extended his hedging till he has now about 150 rods. We extract the following from a communication sent the Albany Cultivator in August last, furnished by Mr D. at the request of the Editors.

"Not a single plant has failed, and has never been attacked by any insect; it vegetates early in the spring, and retains its verdure very late in the fall. It can be trained into almost any form, and makes a beautiful arch over a gate way or passage."

"Respecting the culture of this plant, I should recommend sowing the seed in the fall (as it is taken from the tree,) rather thick, in drills from 14 to 16 inches apart; it will vegetate the next spring; should leave it in the seed bed the first season, and remove them to the nursery the following spring. As soon as the plants are of a good size, about 18 inches high, I should plant them out where I wished to make the hedge in a single row, about eight or nine inches apart, either in the spring or fall of the year, as suited my convenience. As soon as they begin to vegetate after setting them out for a hedge, I should head them down to within six inches of the ground, which causes them to thicken from the bottom; this I consider very important as it tends greatly to beautify the hedge. The only fault I find with my first hedge is, that I did not follow this plan, and it is not so thick near the bottom as those I have since set out. In the after management, very little more is required than to keep the ground clear from weeds, and to form the hedge in any way most agreeable to the cultivator. It should be trimmed regularly every year, and I consider the month of June as the most suitable season for that purpose; the greatest portion of the labor may be done with a common scythe.

"In answer to that portion of your letter requesting information whether the plants would be suitable to the latitude of Maryland, I can only say, that I have no doubt it would answer for most of the States in the Union. It appears remarkably hardy, and adapts itself to almost any situation. I have been called upon for plants to be sent to several of the States, a number for the neighborhood of Baltimore, and I have not in a single instance been advised that they have not succeeded."

Mr. Samuel C. Clarke of this city, gave us some plants of the genuine buckthorn, raised from seeds gathered by himself from a hedge near Boston. The sprouts were a year old when set out by us last spring. Instead of setting them in a nursery, we set them in the hedge-row, and they are very flourishing. They have grown the past season, 16 to 20 inches. They were not headed down, but will be next spring. Scarcely the up of a twig was killed by frost last winter, and now (the 24th Oct.) the leaves are as bright and green as in midsummer. The buckthorn is also noticed on our 41st page.

The Honey Locust or *Three-Thorned Acacia, (Gleditschia triacanthus,)* has been tried by several at the East, and cast aside, because the thorns did not come out low enough, and on account of its winter-killing. One writer says of it, that it killed down every winter about as much as it grew the season previous. But this was in the North. Wherever it is indigenous, as it is in many parts of the West, we have no doubt it might be most successfully cultivated.

The Virginia or Washington Thorn, (cratægus cordata,) Dr. Benj. Shurtleff of Boston, tried about 10 years since; and as he then said, very successfully, preferring it to all other materials. We have seen more recent statements, which say it is very liable to be ravaged by a worm at the roots; and the Editor of the New England Farmer, says he has an impression that Dr. S. has since told him, he thinks the native thorn of New England the best for use in that climate.

The Red Cedar, (Juniperus Virginiana,) is said to answer a very good purpose, and from its natural growth, being very thick, and its great durability, we should think it would do well. It is an evergreen; and the seed can be obtained in abundance in the vicinity of Lake Michigan. The following instructions for planting the seed, we find in an old number of the Albany Cultivator.

"Hugh Gaston, who makes some inquiries on this subject, is informed that the berries of the Cedar are to be gathered in Dec., thoroughly cleansed by rubbing off the resinous matter, put into unslaked ashes, and after two weeks, plant them in rows like peas. They may be transplanted in about two years, into a rich light soil formed for the purpose, and in seven or eight years with proper trimming make a beautiful hedge. If at the expiration of the two weeks preparation in ashes, the ground should be frozen, they must be mixed up with earth in a box, and placed in an exposed situation, until the first thaw, or till the earth can be fitted for their reception. In trimming the cedar or pruning, care must be taken not to disturb the centre or leading shoot, as in that case the tree frequently perishes."

Cotton Wood, (populus canadensis,) is recommended by our correspondents Messrs. Churchill and Van Fleet. It is of rapid growth, and is raised from cuttings. We did not know Mr. Churchill was sending the results of his own experiments in the communication on page 10; but supposed it to be theoretical. We refer our readers to that and to his correspondence with Mr. Wood of Sangamon Co., on page 50; and to Mr. Van Fleet's on same page.

The Osage Orange, (its botanical name we do not know,) has been highly recommended for hedging. We know nothing of it, except that it grows in Arkansas, and is said to be very beautiful.

The Pear Tree. Mr. J. M. Smart of Michigan City, says it is an excellent material for hedging.

As we are able to learn of other materials, we shall notice them, and would ask our readers to aid us in this important labor.

VINEYARDS IN THE WEST.—We long to see the farmers of the West, pay attention to those things which make home comfortable; and nothing can be done with the same amount of labor and expense, that is such a fruitful source of comfort, as the cultivation of fruit. And it takes so short a time to reap the benefits, that it would seem every farmer who looks ahead even for three or four years, would lose no time in procuring, at least, a little.

That grapes can be easily raised there can be no doubt; for more or less varieties are indigenous in all parts of the West. Those living in the vicinity of choice varieties should mark them, as Mr. Bradley of City West, In. did, and at their leisure take them up. If they will still further follow Mr. Bradley's example, and send us some of the slips, we shall be much obliged. The following we extract from the Almanac of the Western Farmer and Gardener:

"The produce of the vineyard begins to be looked upon as a thing of some importance in the West. The wine now made in the immediate vicinity of Cincinnati, amounts to many hundred gallons, and some of it is of most excellent quality. Grapes are sold in market, each season, in considerable quantity, and command a good price. Every farmer, who at all appreciates the luxury of good fruit, should have his acre or two of grape vines. There is no difficulty in it whatever—they are as easily grown as corn; as hardy as the apple tree; yield fully as certain a crop, afford a rich treat during three or four months of the year, and longer, if care is taken in putting them away; the surplus is always in demand in market; or if made into wine—a process almost as simple as cider-making—will yield a handsome return.

"A rich loam, on a clay sub-soil, with a substratum of limestone, seems to us the soil best suited for the production of sure crops of fruit, and of fair quality. A sandy or gravelly soil may give a grape of better flavor, yielding, we should think, a juice of a greater specific gravity; but the crops are neither so sure nor so abundant. In rich bottom land the vine itself grows with much greater rapidity, but the fruit is apt to mildew. The hill sides and tops are preferred, for various reasons; nor the least satisfactory of which is, that it is the most profitable use to which they can be put.

"Where practicable, the ground should be prepared by trenching with the spade in the fall, at least two spits deep—thus placing the rich surface soil at a depth that secures it from washing. If this cannot be done, let the ground be double ploughed, running two ploughs in the same furrow, one behind the other.

In February or March, procure cuttings of well ripened wood, of the previous season's growth, 15 to 18 inches long, cut square immediately above and below a joint. The Catawba, Isabella, and Black cape, or Schuylkill Muscadel, are the sorts to be preferred. Let them be prepared before the sap begins to flow, and buried in a cool cellar. If carried any distance, they ought to be carefully packed in moss. Let the holes be dug 18 or 20 inches in diameter, and about the same in depth. About the middle of April, after soaking the cuttings 24 hours in a tub of rain water, plant them out, two in a hole, at opposite sides, and at such a depth as to allow two buds only to appear above ground—fill up the hole with rich, light mould; if somewhat sandy, so much the better. Tread the mould firmly at the base of the cutting, and moderately so along its whole length. If planted along a trellis, above five feet from plant to plant, is a good distance. If in a contracted and regular vine yard, the rows may be six feet apart and the plants three feet from each other in the row; this allows of the strawberry being cultivated between the vines, which not only keeps the soil from washing on a hill side, but will more than pay all the expense of cultivation.

"A row of sugar beet or of potatoes may be grown between each row the first season."

TO HIRED MEN.

"Not with eye service."—ST. PAUL.

Not long since we gave a brief homily to those who have hired man in their employ. We have now a few words for those who are hired.

To them we say *be faithful.* Perform as much labor as may reasonably be expected from you. Do this cheerfully. Be as diligent when your employer is absent as when he is present. Be mindful of his interests, as far as they are in your keeping. Waste nothing; take good care of tools and stock. Show that you are worthy of confidence. This is not duty only, but it is for your interest. Fidelity in these matters, forms and publishes *your own* character. If you establish a good character as a hired man, that character will in future years procure for you an increase of wages. Merit of all kinds brings its rewards.

And it is your duty to do your work in the manner which your employer directs. Never set up your own judgment in opposition to his. Yours may be the most correct; but still, if he so direct, his must be followed. Where you are left to act according to your own discretion, then proceed in the most economical way possible. Do for your employer as you would do for yourself—do as you would be done by. Many of you are looking forward to the time when you shall become owners of farms, and when you shall want to hire others. It is for your interest, besides being your duty, to have public opinion reprove all unfaithfulness on the part of the employed. Resolve—we say it to each hired man—resolve that there shall be no ground for complaining that you are unfaithful. If your duties are well performed, your relations to your employer will be much more agreeable and pleasant. You will find him in most cases just, if your duties are well discharged.—*N. E. Far.*

MR. ALLEN'S IMPORTATIONS.—We were about writing a notice of Mr Allen's recent importations of Berkshires, which we saw in New York, on the Ship Mediator, when the following from the Albany Cultivator met our eye. Those who have heretofore objected to the Berkshires on account of their small size, will be able to obtain them as large as they may wish, and with all the hardy of the common Berkshire.

We had the pleasure some days since of seeing the *first* importation of improved stock, by the London packet Mediator, which Mr. A. E. ALLEN, now in England, is sending to this country. It consisted of a two year old boar, Windsor Castle, a thorough bred Berkshire, with all the characteristics of the same breed in this country as to marks and color, but of much greater size, standing about three feet high, measuring about six feet on a straight line along his side, and weighing some 600 to 700 pounds, and every way fine and well proportioned: Earl Craven a two year old ditto, not so large but rather more compact and finer, and a considerable number of pigs of the same breed of very large size and promise. These however, from their long and close confinement, did not show to as much advantage as the older ones, but as they have all been selected by Mr A from the choicest stock of the country, affording every promise through their parentage and their own appearance, they will, no doubt, under judicious management, come up fully to the models exhibited in the larger animals.

Another shipment of the Berkshires we notice was made to the packet ship Wellington, and further importations of cattle, sheep and swine are to follow.

TO OUR VERY GOOD FRIEND.—We would just whisper in your ear—do not tell of it, except to *your* best friend, that as we have three Nos of the paper to get out immediately, we want your aid very much, and if you have any thing to communicate, it could not come more seasonably than at the present moment. Do write us. Let not another No. be seen so bare of original matter.

Besides, there is to be a specimen No for the next volume to be got out soon, in which we wish to exhibit a fair sample of what the Western farmers can do, when once they undertake a work.

THE CROPS IN IOWA.—We are pleased to learn by the Territorial papers, that their crops, particularly corn and potatoes, are unusually good.—The scarcity of potatoes in the central part of our State will afford the Hawkeyes a good market for their surplus.

QUICK FRUIT.—We saw in Mr. Tuthill King's garden, in this town, some fine Isabella grapes, grown from a root bought and set out by him last spring, which was then a year old. On it were three fine large bunches and several smaller ones.

WINTER KEEPING OF SHEEP.—The following is extracted from Fessenden's Complete Farmer.

"Perhaps there is no domestic animal that requires more nice and constant attention than the sheep, and no other that will more richly pay for generous keeping. Though he may not be liable to disease, nor require a better quality of food than neat stock, still that management which will keep cattle in good case will not answer for sheep. His habits and mode of feeding are entirely different. For instance, in the winter season a cow may be kept tied to the stall twenty two hours out of the twenty four, and, if well fed three times a day, keep her flesh and get sufficient exercise for her health. Serve a sheep in the same manner and it would not probably live a month.—It is natural for sheep to move about and change situation. Turn a flock of hungry sheep into a pasture, they will run to the end of it before they begin to eat; feed them in troughs, they will run over all till they come to the last, when they have it in their power. They are almost continually shifting situation from hill to dale, from one kind of food to another; and it is a fact that sheep will thrive better on two or three different kinds of ordinary fodder, than they will to be confined to one kind that is of a superior quality."

"The proper time to yard sheep in the fall is while they are yet in good order from fresh feed, and before the frost takes the nourishing qualities from the grass: but a time in which roany sheep are not folded, they are left to nibble over the frozen pastures till they lose the flesh of half a summer's keeping, and which takes half a summer to regain. It is a great error which is persisted in with an idea to save fodder. But setting aside the injury done pastures by close feeding at this season of the year, the sheep which stray away and are lost, and the time spent in hunting them, which are not idle considerations, the farmer would more than get repaid for his extra fodder, and a few week's attention in yarding his sheep sooner, by preserving their health and condition.—When they are put to winter-quarters, they require as much variety as possible, not that they want so much room, but they need a number of apartments. Two yards and one shed will do very well for one flock, or what will answer the same purpose, if a large number of sheep are to be kept near each other, have the yards in a row, and one more yard than flocks of sheep. Then by shifting one flock to the spare yard it leaves another vacant, and so on. Thus may all be changed, which should be done at every time of feeding. As fast as the yards are empty, the food should be put in them, and never while the sheep are there. One hundred sheep are enough to be kept together. Cleanliness is of the utmost importance. Their yards should be littered with straw or something of the kind constantly, or they will be in danger of losing in a degree a relish for their food.

"The next thing necessary is, to have proper places for your sheep to eat hay in, which are the common board mangers, and may make partings to the yards. Take six joists, say three inches square, and four feet long; have the boards of a length, then nail two of them to the joists set up perpendicularly in such a manner that one joist will be in the middle of each board, and the other two at the ends, and that the top edge of the boards will be one foot from the ground; then nail short boards on the ends two feet and a half long, the width of the manger, the next board on the sides to be placed eight inches from the lower boards, then board it tight to the top of the joists and the manger is finished. A manger eighteen feet long, of this description, will accommodate thirty sheep. Single mangers may be made along the outside fence of the yard, which do not require to be so wide. The great superiority of these mangers over racks is, first, the facility of putting hay into them without dropping it on the ground, secondly, it obviates the danger of hay-seed falling on the wool of the sheep; and thirdly, it prevents any waste of fodder. The next thing after mangers for hay, should be a place appropriated for feeding out roots, which every farmer should raise to a certain extent. Although we cannot turn them to so good an account as the English feeders do, on account of the severity of our winters, still a proportion of them as food for our stock is of great importance. In order that the farmer may make the most of his roots, he should have a cellar fixed to receive them in the fall, without too much labor, and accessible at any time in the winter, without endangering them by frost. The cellar should be placed as near the yard as practicable with a watering-place at hand. A good way of washing roots is, to have an oblong box that will hold two or three bushels, with the bottom perforated with auger holes, and rockers placed on the under side of the box; then by pouring in a little water and rocking them, the dirt will directly wash through the bottom of the box. They should then be cut fine with a sharp shovel, and they are fit for feeding out. Browse in the winter occasionally for sheep is very palatable, and is of considerable use in preserving their appetite, and as a change of food, but care should be taken to select the right kind. There are many kinds of hard wood, of which the bark and buds are very injurious.* The bark of the black cherry eaten by ewes with lamb is almost sure to produce abortion. Generally winter green is to be preferred to any other browse. White and yellow pine are best.

"Regularity in feeding sheep is of prime consequence in cold dry weather. It is not necessary to feed them oftener than three times a day, if discretion is used in the quantity of fodder. In warm weather, and especially if it is muddy, they should have little at a time, and be fed four or five times a day, if discretion is used in the quantity of fodder. In warm weather, and especially if it is muddy, they should have little at a time and be fed four or five times a day. Daubenton and others calculate that two pounds of hay are sufficient for the support of one sheep a day, (which, by the way, in our climate is not enough.) Calculations of this kind, if made with the utmost accuracy on one, or any number of sheep at one time, will not apply to the same sheep at another; because so much depends on circumstances. A sheep that will eat three pounds of hay in a cold day will not, perhaps eat more than two in a warm day following; and still less in a damp one. Not that they require so much more food in cold weather than in warm, but that sudden changes affect their appetites and without injuring their health. Again, a sheep of proper form and inclination to fatten, will not need so much nutriment to preserve its health as one of the same weight of a coarse rawboned, uneasy make.

*Tho wood disease, so much complained of in France, is wholly owing to sheep's eating fresh buds.

THE HORSE.—We have procured a volume of the Naturalist's Library, (Edinburgh) containing a complete history of the noblest of quadrupeds—the Horse. Extracts will be given from time to time.

We wish every man owning a horse would remember the following judicious observations with regard to kind treatment. It is most debasing to any one to abuse his horse; and there is scarcely any thing, from which a stranger will form so contemptible an opinion of a man, as from seeing him maltreat this generous, high-spirited animal.

"In submission to a master, the horse is affected by kind treatment almost as much as the dog and elephant: for although habitually his actions show timidity, they are more an effect of good temper than fear, for where severity is unreasonably exercised, obedience readily granted to kind treatment becomes doubtful, and sooner or later breaks out in vicious resentment and opposition: a horse knows his own strength, and oppression has its limits. In emulation to surpass a rival, no more convincing instance can be cited than in the case of a race horse finding his competitor begin to head him in the course, seizing him by the fore-leg with such firm teeth, that both jockeys were obliged to dismount to part them."*

"But the confidence of a horse in a firm rider and his own courage is great, as was conspicuously evinced in the case of an Arab possessed by the late Gen. Sir Robert Gillespie, who being present on the race course of Calcutta, during one of the great Hindu festivals, when several hundred thousand people may be assembled to witness all kinds of shows was suddenly alarmed by the shrieks of the crowd, and informed that a tiger had escaped from his keepers; the colonel immediately called for his horse, and grasping a boar spear, which was in the hands of one among the crowd, rode to attack this formidable enemy: the tiger was probably amazed at finding himself in the middle of such a number of shrieking beings, flying from him in all directions, but the moment he perceived Sir Robert, he crouched with the attitude of preparing to spring at him, and that instant the gallant soldier passed his horse in a leap over the tiger's back, and struck the spear through his spine. The horse was a small grey, afterwards sent home by him a present to the Prince Regent. When Sir Robert fell at the stormang of Kalunga, his favorite black charger bred at the Cape of Good Hope, and carried by him to India, was at the sale of his effects competed for by several officers of his division, and finally knocked down to the privates of the 8th dragoons, who contributed their prize money to the amount of £500 sterling, to retain this commemoration of their late commander. Thus the charger was always led at the head of the regiment on a march, and at the station of Cawnpore was usually indulged with taking his ancient post at the colour-stand, where the salute of passing squadrons was given at drill and on reviews.—When the regiment was ordered home, the funds of the privates running low, he was bought for the same sum by a relative of ours, who provided funds and a paddock for him, where he might end his days in comfort; but when the corps had marched, and the sound of trumpet had departed, he refused to eat, and on the first opportunity, being led out to exercise, he broke from his groom, and galloping to his ancient station on the parade, after neighing aloud dropped down and died."

"All these intellectual and moral qualities vary in horses as much as the physical; for spirit and daring is not more universal than timidity and cowardice; memory, prudence, aptitude in some, heedlessness, stupidity, and obstinacy in others. These distinctions are not always individual, but commonly generical, and propagated with the other character of races and breeds, enter in the composition of the original forms of each stock; and it will be found in treating of them, that the most beautiful and noble is also the most gentle and most educated.

* This was a horse of Mr. Quin's, in 1753.—Forrester, another racer, caught his antagonist by the jaw to hold him back. Surely such animals should not be gored or cut with the whip to do their utmost.

CULTURE OF FOREST TREES, HEDGING, &c.—In the Albany Cultivator we find the following letter from Dr. Knapp of Sangamon co.; and we are very glad to see some of our citizens awaking to the importance of growing timber and hedging. It is time measures were being taken to secure a sufficiency of timber for future use on our prairies; though we believe the timber we have will be so economised as to go a great way. Another season we shall hope to be able to furnish seeds at the Repository of some kind of forest trees, and of shrubs &c. for hedging.

We hope Dr. K. will favor us with communications upon these interesting subjects.

To Francis H. Gordon, Esq. Tennessee:

SIR—not having seen any answer to your inquiries in the May number of the Cultivator, for "accurate information on raising chesnut timber from the seed, and red cedar from the berries," I take the liberty of respectfully submitting, that, when a boy, I remember to have often searched for seedlings under chestnut trees, in the spring of the year, pulling and eating the nuts that had germinated after having lain upon the ground through winter, buried under the leaves. I have noticed that walnuts, hickory nuts, acorns, &c. germinate in the same manner. Taking nature, therefore, as the best guide in these matters, I would say, plant all kinds of nuts in autumn, before drying. Plant in rich soil, for notwithstanding the chesnut seems naturally to delight in poor soils, there is no principle better established in timber growing, than that young trees should always be raised on good land, so as to carry a stock of health and strength with them from the nursery. Cultivate in nursery two years, and then point out where to stand, six feet apart, early in the spring. It is asserted positively, by experienced English planters, that where the reproductive timbers, as the oak, chesnut, &c. are well managed in this way, they will be larger at seven years old, of nursery culture, and the tap root cut when transplanted, than at ten years old from seed planted where the timber is to stand.

I have tried in vain for two seasons past, to grow chesnut trees by engrafting the scions on oak roots. A neighbor of mine had sent him from New York, last year, two thousand, I think, of the sweet or Spanish chesnuts, about four hundred of which have succeeded. They came boxed in sand, which is the most approved method, I believe, of packing the seed, and this must be done when fresh gathered. Nuts and acorns intended for seed, must never be suffered to become dry or even wilted.

Relative to the red cedar berries, I am unable to say whether they vegetate the first season, or like the holly, hawthorn, and others, not until the second. If you shall find on trial they do not come the first season, I would suggest that they be treated after the manner directed by Philips, in the Sylva Florifera, for causing the berries of the holly to vegetate the first season, which they will never do unless when they have passed through the stomach of fowls: He says.—

"We have therefore only to give them a similar fermentation by art to that which nature gives them in the body of birds, to enable us to raise plants in one year instead of two. For this purpose, take a bushel of bran and mix it with the seeds in a tub, and wet it with soft water, and let it remain undisturbed for ten days, when it will begin to ferment. It must be sprinkled occasionally with warm water, to keep it moist, and in about thirty or forty days the heat of the moistened bran will put the berries into a state of vegetation fit for sowing.—March is the best season for sowing, and September, (England,) the proper season for transplanting young hollies, but in cold moist soils they may be safely transplanted in the Spring. Mr. Evelyn says, he has raised hedges four years from seedlings taken out of the woods, which should induce us to make more frequent trials of raising feeces of this prickly plant."

To the farmers of this prairie country, there is no subject that commends itself more forcibly to their notice than the growing of valuable timber and the rearing of live fences. I for one am endeavoring to make some advances in this line, but labor under great embarrassments for want of choice timber seeds. Should a National Agricultural Society be formed, I think there might be established a general seed depository of native and exotic plants of great utility. Another legitimate object would be the publication of a concise manual on planting. This business of cutting down and destroying timber is to have a limit, and the whole country will be eventually renovated, like the British Isles, with a slower growth.—It is wise in a national point of view to begin when young, for our live oak is not inexhaustible, and our rail roads and canals every where demand more durable timber in their construction and repairs. Our numerous steamboats too, particularly on the rivers of the west, plying night and day for weeks against the current, should be constructed of better timber than grows here now. In fine, there is no use to which timber is applied, from the common uses of fencing to those of ship building, that would not be greatly subserved by giving to the subject of timber planting that consideration it justly merits, as one of the concomitant concerns of agriculture.

M. L. KNAPP.

P. S. I see by referring to page 90, June No. of the Cultivator, that the editors in answer to Hugh Gaston, have given the process for cultivating the cedar from berries. I will not, however, withdraw my quotation from Philips, as he is good authority, and his receipt may be useful in reference to seeds which require two years for germination.

May I avail myself, Messrs. Editors, of this opportunity, there being no depository of timber seeds, or system of exchange, to solicit information through your widely circulated periodical, from farmers of various localities, where any of the undermentioned species of timber may grow, and who will engage to put up for me, and deliver at some point of shipment, the seeds of the chesnut, beech, American poplar, white and red cedar, white and pitch pine, American larch or hackmatac, hemlock, holly, osage orange or box-wood, white mulberry, and the hedge shrub called pyracantha. I am anxious to obtain all of these the coming autumn, and to test the growth of the evergreens, particularly on these prairies. I think the above, added to what I have and can obtain in this locality to wit: the varieties of oak, the hickory, ash, maple, black and white walnut, pecan, cotton-wood, linden, black and honey locust, elm, sycamore, coffeenut, huckeys, hackberry, catalpe, cherry, black, Chinese and Alpine mulberry, white thorn, and Judas tree, will make a grove of mixed woods, worthy to grace a prairie; and I will be under particular obligations to you, Messrs. Gaylord & Tucker, and those who through your columns, engage to aid me, besides paying for the seeds and holding myself bound in courtesy to answer exchangee.

M. L. K.

Middletown, Ill. August, 1841.

BAKEWELL AND MERINO SHEEP.—In John Lawrence's valuable Treatise on Cattle, there is a highly interesting account of a cross between the pure Merinos and the Bakewell breed of sheep, which appears worthy our serious regard. It is now pretty generally conceded that the grand secret in crossing is to commence with the best dam; and amongst breeders in Europe, more care is observed in the selection of the male, as to form and constitution, than to size; indeed a preference is given for a small male rather than a large one, compared with the size of the female. Amongst the breeders of pure Devon cattle, but little regard is had to the size of the bull, his points and purity of blood are the objects for which they seek, in rearing large oxen: always choosing, as a matter of the first importance, a cow of large size and capacity for breeding.

At page 591 of Lawrence's Treatise, it is (quoted from Thompson) "Mr. Hose, a considerable grazier at Melton Mowbray, has crossed several of his Bakewell or Dishley ewes with a Merino ram, with decisive success: I lately requested this gentleman to send me a few fleeces of the wool, which I put into the hands of Mr. Hawksley, inquiring what was the present value of such wool? His answer was, 'We will give eighteen pence per pound for two thousand packages to morrow, and take one hundred packages weekly, by contract, at the same price, for seven years, certain.' Now this price is nearly twice as much as can at present be obtained for pure Bakewell wool, and these sheep produce little more than the Merino-Dishleys, for although the Merino shortens the staple, he thickens the pile, so that every fleece is nearly double in value. The loss that we are to look for then, is in the carcass, and this is infinitely less than will at first be supposed; it seems indeed to be now very generally agreed, that in sheep, the sire operates principally on the fleece and the dam on the carcass, which is illustrated by Mr. Hose's Merino-Dishleys, they being superior in form to any that I ever saw with Spanish blood in their veins, and having lost little, if any, in size. Many Bakewell breeders have their whole wool of one, two, and three years on hand, whereas Mr. Hawksley's note seems clearly to prove, that one cross with the pure Merino would make their wool immediately saleable, at a great advance of price, for seven years to come, while no deterioration would have taken place in the carcass." Lawrence adds: "The

less of size in the Merino-Dishley crosses is a natural result, perfectly independent of the idea of deterioration; and as to the flesh, nothing can be better calculated than a Spanish mixture to remove the natural rusipdity of Sakewell mutton."

On the subject of the deterioration of the wool by crossing, and the impossibility of preserving its fineness out of Spain, Lawrence says: "I lately exposed the following patterns of cloths to one who ought to be as capable a judge of cloth as any man in England, and who was formerly convinced of the utter impossibility of growing fine wool in this country. No. 1, given me by *himself* two years since, as the finest pattern of cloth London could produce, and made from imported Spanish wool. No 2, *Lord Somerville's cloth, manufactured, I believe, in 1806. No. 3, a late and very beautiful pattern of Dr. Parry's Merino-Ryland cloth. The judge instantly threw aside No. 1, as totally unworthy to stand in competition; giving the preference to Dr. Parry's specimen but on a final examination declared that he thought Lord Somerville's pattern somewhat the finest and the fabric most substantial, the other wearing the face of a beautiful lady's cloth, in appearance like those made of Saxon wool."

Now, cannot we apply the above account of a most interesting experiment to our advantage? It is supposed by some in this country that the wool is deteriorated by crossing, the fleece being neither decidedly fine or coarse, and the staple of different lengths,—neither combing or clothing—but here is proof positive, and only one among hundreds, that this is not the fact, and that a great profit is to be derived from a judicious cross with the small Merino ram on the large Dishley ewe. With regard to the flavor of the Merino mutton, Lawrence says: "I have never heard any man complain of the quality of Spanish mutton *but he who never tasted it.*"—*Fur. Cab.*

* Lord Somerville's cloth was made from pure Merino, grown in England.



KEEPING SWEET POTATOES.—The following instructions from the Southern Planter, the Editor, Mr. Sotts, says are from a man as remarkable for his success in keeping as in raising. No one attempting to cultivate this delicious vegetable must object to trouble in saving the seed. As it is cultivated to considerable extent in the West, we have thought the instructions would be considered valuable by many of our readers.

"In compliance with the promise I made last winter, I now proceed to detail for the Planter my method of keeping the sweet potato. I beg here to repeat my assurance confidence in the superiority of this vegetable over every other root I have ever known as a food for man and beast.

The popular objection, viz. the difficulty of making and keeping was for some time an insuperable one with me, and it was not until after years of experience and trial, in which I was sustained by a consciousness of their great value, that I was enabled to succeed to my satisfaction in either. I now find no difficulty in either the one or the other.

I will premise a few words as to the proper mode of harvesting. When my potatoes are fully matured, which is generally about the 20th of October, I commence digging them. My first operation is to cut off the vines upon the tops of the ridges, with an instrument not unlike a reap-hook, with a sharp smooth edge.

These vines I deposit in the centre between the rows. I then proceed with a single plough to run deep furrows on the sides of the ridges, turning the earth over on the vines. Then with a broad hoe, set a little slanting, I strike at the bottom of the ridge containing the potatoes, and raising the earth on the hoe seize the top with one hand, when with a little exertion all the roots are disengaged from the earth, frequently in a cluster. The same day they are assorted, the small ones saved for feeding, and the large ones separated, to be packed away for winter use. At all times, great care is taken to prevent their being bruised.

To preserve potatoes a warm, dry atmosphere in the strictest sense of the word, is absolutely necessary. The warmth cannot well be obtained out of a cellar and I found for some time great difficulty in obtaining the requisite dryness in one. To effect this object the walls must be protected from the dampness of the earth lying against them, otherwise the water oozes through and produces dampness, in spite of you. After trying drains of every description without effect, I fully succeeded by sinking a narrow ditch along side of the wall and puddling it well with good clay, intermixed with a little coarse gravel. This method I would strongly recommend to all, whether in town or country; for a dry cellar is not less conducive to health than convenient for domestic purposes.

My cellar is provided with windows for the admission of light and air, and with a fire place to warm and dry the atmosphere when necessary. In this cellar I have two wooden bins, fourteen feet long and seven feet wide, with a convenient passage between; the sides are four and a half feet in height, next the wall, from which they are distant three or four inches. The front next the passage, is reduced to fourteen inches. The floors are made of plank and raised a few inches from the ground. The bottoms are strewed with well dried rye straw, and a coating of the same is interposed against the sides, as the bins are filled. I handle the potatoes one at a time, and commencing at the back part of the bin, place them on end, with the stems upwards, as they grew in the earth. This, from experience, I believe to be the best way of placing all vegetables that it is intended to keep. The figure at the head of the paper will more clearly exhibit the position of the potatoes and the shape of the bin. By this means, openings are preserved from the top to the bottom, by which they are completely ventilated, whilst a sufficient warmth is created by the bulk to prevent their freezing.

I am careful to keep a good fire burning in the cellar, with the windows open, whilst I am sorting and packing, that I may drive off the dampness created by the potatoes themselves.—After the bank is completed, and begins to heat, I cast over the top a little sand, which soon becomes dry from the heat of the bank, when I move a broom lightly over the top, displacing the sand and causing it to fall into the bank. This is repeated three or four times, as the heating may require, after which, I leave a thin coat on the top as a winter covering.

I am aware that many who may read this article will come to the conclusion, that my method of packing is difficult and tedious, the correctness of which I am ready to admit, but the vegetable is delicious and valuable. I myself, however, can pack about one hundred bushels a day after they are prepared to my hand. I know of no other method by which they can be preserved with as much certainty.

I will mention for the benefit of those who may not have cellars suitable for keeping vegetables, that I have succeeded remarkably well, by putting them in small parcels in a hill, out of doors, made in the following manner. I chose high ground for the location, and raised the plat of the hill a few inches above the surface by the use of a broad hoe. Upon this plat I laid corn stalks, and upon them straw or pine boards, on which I placed my potatoes, raising them in the shape of a sugar loaf, as steep as I could, then covered them over well with straw; upon the straw I then placed corn-stalks, up and down, thick enough to prevent the pressure of the dirt upon the potatoes, and then I covered the whole with a light coating of earth; after which I set up planks around the hill to ward off the rain and prevent the dirt from crocking or washing. It so remained until the weather became cold, when I added as much earth as would secure the potatoes from freezing, and replaced the planks. In this manner I have kept them free from injury, but it should be borne in mind, that large parcels would be apt to spoil from the heat they themselves would generate.

Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH SERNARD.

SMOKING FIREPLACES.—A correspondent of the Albany Cultivator gives the following hints on the construction of chimneys so as to prevent their smoking.

"The best means of preventing that pest, smoking fireplaces, is to build so as to produce a *strong, steady draught.* The air in the chimney is rarified by the heat from the fire, and consequently rises; the air in the room fills up the partial vacuum, and a current is established. To insure a draught in the chimney, the air entering it should be heated as much as possible. This is done by having the mantle or front of the fireplace low; this will force the air nearer the fire, and of course cause it to rise with more velocity, because it will be heated more than on a high front fire place. The back should be of the same height as the front. If a right room has a large fireplace and chimney, it will smoke, because there will not sufficient air enter the room through the crevices of the doors and windows to produce an active draught up the chimney, and the cooler, heavier air on the outside will reverse this current, and force the smoke down into the room. Long chimneys usually have a stronger draught than short ones, as the column of rarified air is longer, but they may be made so long as to cool the air before it reach es the mouth of the chimney; for this reason very long stove pipes smoke more frequently than pipes or chimneys that are shorter. It is necessary, also, that the interior of a chimney should be smooth, so as to present no impediment to the smoke."

I here lived in our native town, years ago, a waggish old man by the name of Skidmore.—Seeing plagued with a smoky house, he had some alteration made in the chimney, but with no good result. One of his neighbors knowing this, said to him, "Well, Skidmore, how does your chimney work now? smoke any?" "Not a bit!" "What, not smoke? You know it does as bad as ever." "I say it don't smoke a bit." "But you know it does." "I say it don't smoke a bit—*the smoke all goes out at the window*."—*N. E. Farmer.*

TO FARMERS.—The following address we copy from the Yankee Farmer, taking the liberty of inserting the name of our paper instead of the Y. F.

It is to be considered of so much importance to have original articles for Eastern papers, of how much greater importance is it to us in the West, where we know so little of the best system to be adopted for prairie farming.

Brother farmers, my object in this communication is to direct your attention to a subject that is too much neglected, viz. of communicating our practice and discoveries in agricultural pursuits, to an agricultural Journal, that would be of advantage to others engaged in the same honorable employment. The Union Agriculturist serves as a medium through which all may ask for information, and for those who possess it, can freely give. I am happy to say that there are a goodly number of contributors to this valuable paper, whose communications we have read with pleasure and profit: still farmers are too reserve in making known the result of their experiments and produce in farming. Undoubtedly there are many readers of the Union Agriculturist who might communicate valuable information, who are silent. I mean those plain practical farmers who can communicate facts of the right kind. Perhaps you excuse yourselves on the ground that you are not capable, that your learning is not sufficient. Poor excuse this; I will tell those who can make letters and form them into words, how you can manage: when you are about your daily labors, have a sheet of paper folded in a convenient form, and a pencil in your pocket, when you are weary with excessive labor, retire to some pleasant grove, where you will be screened from Sol's scorching rays; have a subject that you are familiar with, or that you can write upon experimentally, pencil down your ideas as they flow from your mind: in this way you can throw together a few sentences in the course of a few days that will be of immense value, of far more value than the writings of some theoretical farmers, who know no more about practical farming than an infant does his grandfather. After having your subject completed, at your leisure, on some rainy day transcribe the whole as well as you can, send it to the Editor of the Union Agriculturist; it will be thankfully received, and returned to you in good style. Brother farmers, be not daunted, make an effort, and you will produce something far beyond your most sanguine aspectations.

Agriculture opens a wide field for research; there is no bounds to its improvement, and there is no subject on which the man of science can employ his talents as on this. It is a noble calling for the aspiring young man, who is just starting in the world, and is determined to arrive at the highest pinnacle of fame, here you can make greater discoveries in the arts and sciences than you could shut up within the walls of a college. The exercise is congenial to health. Thus it is with a farm school, when managed judiciously, a moderate exercise of the body, a suitable portion of the time, gives a student relaxation from study, habituates his system to hardship, and gives health both to body and mind.

PHYSICAL DEGENERACY.—We cannot disguise the fact that the great bulk of the younger part of the community are far, very far from being as athletic, hardy and robust as were the older part when young. We see it every time we look around upon a group of young persons. It appears in every assembly, and it speaks a loud and a warning voice every time we compare the effeminate and sickly forms of the delicate lilly cheeked and lilly fingered youth, with the hardy and strong sinewy forms of that generation who are passing away from us like old oaks that have withstood the winds and the storms of a long lifetime, and are bowing to the effects of old age rather than to any disease.

We think that this, though observable in both sexes, is more so among the females than among the males. A pernicious belief that it is disgraceful to work, and that a young lady is elevated in the scale of respectability and dignity in proportion to her ignorance of domestic duties and her neglect of labor, has led to this. Among the farmer's daughters you will find something of the old system of "hard labor" at home, and a corresponding degree of health and strength. In the little villages you will perceive less of it, and a predominance of effeminacy; in the large villages we see more of this, and in the cities you will find a wide very wide difference between the forms, shape, color, health, strength, and physical powers of the girls and those of the country.

We know that there is a false pride among certain individuals of the community which prompts to this, which leads the young miss to value herself more highly, the more delicate she can make herself appear, and the more she can "*whiten and*," even at the expense of health and the physical powers which God has given her. We agree with the Editor of the N. E. Farmer in the sentiment that such should go down to the grave unmarried, childless, "solitary and alone." They may toss the head and curl the lip with as much scorn as they please, the laws of nature will not be infringed with impunity, and however delicate may be the subject, truth will not change, and the truth is, that puny and feeble parents can raise none other than a puny offspring. That farmer would be called a fool indeed who culled out the poorest and most ought and unripe seed to plant again, or saved the weakest and most feeble of his flocks to propagate for the future, and yet this is the very error which is blindly pursued in the continuance of the human species. We say blindly, for it must be owing to a blind impulse, that rational beings should so conduct, rather than to any reasoning upon the subject.

It is a subject which should engage the attention of every philanthropist. Shall we become a nation of invalids? Or shall we rise above the silly pride which seems now to direct public opinion, and by manly and useful labor, coarse but nutritious diet, neat but comfortable clothing, —reform so as to become again something as our fathers were? They were not afraid of the air. They were not ashamed of labor. They were not too proud to be seen eating coarse but substantial food and they were rewarded with health and strength accordingly.—*Maine Farm.*

Are your wagons, carts, and implements of husbandry of all sorts provided with suitable places for their protection? If they are not, they should be. Exposure to the weather of such things is a full loss of twenty-five per cent. upon the farmer or planter who is culpable enough to pay it.

Have you stabling and sheds for all your stock? If you have not, set to work and provide them before winter sets in.

Dash ahead with your plowing, and get in your small grain in good season.

If you have a field that is beset with *St. Johnswort, wild Carrot, Ozaye*, or any other pest, plow in the weeds, or mow them down, before they have time to ripen their seed. By so doing we will ensure you two things—a richer soil and cleaner field next year—neither of which are to be lightly thought of.—*American Farmer.*

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Union Agriculturist.

SHEEP WANTED.

Dear Sir—You probably recollect that I called on you at your house last spring, to ascertain the prospect of getting a lot of sheep; at which time you gave it as your opinion, that there would be a number of flocks brought in from the East and South in the course of the season, and that you could engage some for me. I am yet as anxious as ever to engage in that business, but not able to purchase. I would take any and from that to one hundred, and give the owner as hand-some profits as any person can afford. I would take them and keep them from one to three or more years, and deliver a certain quantity of wool yearly, and return the flock in as good condition as they were when they came into my possession; or I would take them to double in a certain length of time. I wish you would be so good as to assist me a little in obtaining them. I will satisfy you for your trouble. I intend to be at Naperville at the Fair on the 20th Oct.; probably I shall see you there. My neighbors are anxious to go into the business. I think there is a chance for those that have sheep to spare, to dispose of from one to two thousand in this neighborhood; but I think there is but a few that are able to purchase at present. If you have learnt any thing respecting the quantity of sheep that are brought in, or that will be this season, please inform me by writing.

Yours, &c.

ALFRED STANDISH.

DARIFIELD, Kane Co. Sept. 4, 1841.

NOTE.—The expectations that a good many sheep would be brought in this season, has been fully answered, but we have been unable to make any arrangements as Mr. S. proposed. They have been brought to be sold, and we could find no one willing to hire them out.

Without a doubt, a large capitalist would do well to bring in sheep and lease them to our farmers. Hundreds of them are anxious to get sheep, but they are unable to pay for them at present. Let their produce bring as good a price for a year or two as it has this, and their ease will be altered.

We can form no opinion as to the quantity brought in, as but a few have come through Chicago.

For the Union Agriculturist.

POINT REPUBLIC, La Salle Co.
Ill. Sept. 21, 1841.

EXPERIMENT WITH CORN.

Mr. Wright, Sir— * * * * *

I made an experiment in raising corn the present year with three different kinds. I selected the earliest ripe of the large yellow corn; the amalgamation, or white and blue mixed; and the white which I planted separately. The result was, the yellow was first ripe, and least yield; the mixed was ripe next, and very soon after the yellow, and a larger yield than either the yellow or the white, so that I have come to the conclusion that the mixed is best and have selected the earliest for seed, which I intend to plant another year.

Yours, very respectfully,

G. M. NEWTON.

NOTE.—Now is the time for farmers to furnish statements like the above of what they have done—what experiments they have tried, with the results. It would be better for farmers to furnish short descriptions of their mode of culture, in connexion with their statements—whether manured or not—how many times hoed or ploughed—time of planting, &c.

For the Union Agriculturist.

THORN SEED WANTED, & HEDGING.

SOUTH WEST, Jasper Co. Missouri,
August 22, 1841.

Gentlemen—Not having the advantage of an acquaintance in your city or the adjacent country, I thought it best to address a letter to some one engaged in your line of business, thinking it the surest chance of success. I wish to get in possession of all the information I can respecting the growth and utility of the English hedging thorn, for I am told by a respectable gentleman, that it is well adapted to that climate; and the experiment in this country if it met with success, would be of great value; for there are many fine valleys of land here that can't be put in cultivation on account of the inconvenience of timber for fencing. I have selected a piece for a farm in one of those rich vallers with a good living spring, on which I expect to settle for life; and being that I am young, I have tried to raise my fence and then get much good of it; should I be blessed to live even to a common age. I wish you to write to me whether you have the seeds or not, and if not, whether they can be procured in your country or not; and if so, whether I would have to come or send after them, or whether they could be sent to St. Louis; (or Boonville on the Missouri river, would be the most convenient chance for me to get them;) and what you think the expense would be; if I have to come, what season of the year I had best come after them, &c.; and whether it is the seeds or switches that a person gets a start from, and if you know anything about it, please to give my name to some gentleman that is acquainted with the whole business, and request him to give me an answer on the subject. In

receiving an answer from you I will esteem it as a great favor and ever remain

Yours most respectfully,

HENRY K ARCHER.

NOTE.—Such letters as the above we will answer, so far as we are able, with the greatest pleasure.

We suppose Mr Archer refers to the common English haw-thorn, (Crataegus Cordata), the seed of which cannot be obtained in the West, so far as we know We would advise Mr. A. to examine the woods in his vicinity and see if there be not wild thorns growing in abundence. If so, he would do well to cultivate them; or at least try an experiment, and see if they will not answer. We will be obliged to him to keep us informed of his success. Thinking further instructions would be valuable to some of our readers, we have inserted other articles upon hedging in this number, and shall continue to give every thing we can find that would be considered valuable in the West.

For the Union Agriculturist.

GALENA, Ill., Sept. 9, 1841.

ENCOURAGEMENT FROM LEE CO.

Dear Sir,—Enclosed you have one dollar for which you will please forward one year the Union Agriculturist; the subscription to commence with the first number of the volume You will please direct to H. B. & M. F. Truett, Dixon, Lee co., Illinois.

I will endeavor, on my arrival home, to arouse the minds of my neighbors to the importance of a County Agricultural Society, and hope to be enabled to send you a good list of subscribers, as I am much pleased with an accidental perusal of a back number of your paper, not being aware before that such a paper was published in your place; and, I fear, for the good of many farmers, that ignorance, in this respect, is not confined to myself

Your obedient serv't.

HENRY B. TRUETT.

NOTE.—Still another proof that the friends of this paper do not take sufficient pains to show it to their acquaintances as they have opportunities. It is not necessary, generally speaking, to *urge* farmers to subscribe; all that is necessary is that the paper should be shown. Many that would not subscribe because of the present value of the paper, would send their dollar to aid the enterprise, and because it promises to be so important to the West. And some think it valuable even now.

Do show the paper more —Here is a most efficient friend made by accidentally seeing a single number of the paper in a distant town. And what is to be done, should be done quickly. If the paper is to be enlarged, we wish to know it *immediately;* that notice may be given in the new prospectus shortly to be issued. The enlargement depends entirely upon the number of subscribers to the present volume.

It is quite as cheering to learn there will be an Agricultural Society formed in Lee Co., as to have made this warm friend. We will risk the success of the paper, if the friends of agricultural improvement will only form in each county an efficient Society.

SUPERIOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS IN THE WEST.—It being the fashion for Eastern publications to publish statements of wonderful agricultural productions, either as size or quantity is regarded, in order to show the West cannot be outdone, we shall give in a condensed form statements that may come to hand, as the following:

Mammath pumpkin at Quincy —At the store of Messrs. F. A. & A. King was exhibited a pumpkin measuring *six feet nine inches* in circumference, and weighing *one hundred and fifty-nine lbs.—Herald.*

Squashes at Alton.—Wm. F. D'Wolf, Esq of Alton, raised some squashes of a superior qualities of the following weight, one 68 inches in incumference, 112 lbs; one 108 lbs.; one 100½ lbs., and two 100 lbs each.—*Telegraph.*

A Pumpkin at Belleville, was raised by Mr. E L. Messenger, weiging 112 lbs —*Great Western.*

Meshanock vs Rohan at Burlington, I T.—Mr McKnight raised a Meshanock potato weighing 3 lbs —*Hawkeye*

Wisconsin Wheat.—Mr. Seymour Wilcox, of Waupun, Fon du Lac county, raised from three bushels of seed sown on 2½ acres, *one hundred and two bushels* of good clean wheat, without extra culture. The West is challenged to beat it. *Green Bay Phanix.*

Heavy Wheat at Alton.—The Telegraph says one lot of wheat was bought there weighing *sixty seven* lbs. to the bushel.

TO THE HORTICULTURIST.—On the cover of the Magazine of Horticulture, we observe a request to amateurs and gardeners in all sections of the country, to furnish "notices of new private gardens, nurseries, public gardens, cemeteries, &c.; information respecting all new plants introduced, new fruits or flowers raised from seed, and indeed of every thing that is new." The object of the editor is to furnish in the January No of the Magazine, their annual Retrospective View of Horticulture for 1841. Shall not something be furnished from the West? Communications should be addressed to Hovey & Co Boston, and reach them by the first of December.

AGRICULTURAL PAPERS FOR PREMIUMS.—By the Illinois we see the Morgan county Agricultural Society has concluded to give an agricultural paper for one year as a premium, instead of a certificate. This is as it should be. Besides being suitable and valuable for the purpose, it is a great aid to the paper selected. It gives it character, and may much increase the subscription list.

For the Union Agriculturist.

PLAN FOR A FARM COTTAGE.

The accompanying plan is designed for a house that will be within the means of most farmers. It is arranged to be built at separate times, or all together, as may best suit the wants or ability of the builder. The object has been to combine convenience and comfort with economy, and at the same time have it make a pleasant appearance. Economy in the use of fuel is aimed at in the arrangement of fires, and for this reason stoves are used and no fire places made except for the kitchen, the chimneys merely coming sufficiently below the ceiling of the upper rooms to admit the pipe. The wing is eighteen feet by twenty four, with fourteen feet posts, the roof spanning the long way and contains the Hall, Stairs, a large room and a small bed room, and a closet under the stairs, on the first flour and two chambers with closets on the second floor. The lower story to be eight or nine feet in the clear, leaving a comfortable attic above. The main building is eighteen feet by twenty six, with eighteen feet posts, with a piazza on two sides, which is to be extended in front of the wing to shelter the door; this contains the parlor and bedroom with a closet, and a passage communicating with the other parts of the house, on the lower floor, and two chambers with closets on the second floor. The lower story to be ten feet high, the upper rooms to be arched under the roof making them from eight to nine feet high.

The rear is one story, eighteen feet by twenty two, with a piazza on one side, and contains the kitchen, pantry, and cheese room, back and cellar stairs. The cellar is planned to extend under this part of the house, though it can be made larger if desired, the outside cellar-door and windows are shown in the elevation. The wood-house is to be joined to the rear of this, and is partly shown in the plan, but the size is left to the convenience of the builder.

FIG. 29.—PERSPECTIVE VIEW OF ELEVATION.



FIG. 30. GROUND PLAN—FIRST FLOOR.

EXPLANATION.

DIMENSIONS IN THE CLEAR.

A, Dinning Room, 14 x 17 feet.
B, Bed Room, 8 x 11 feet.
C, Hall, 6 x 8 feet.
D, Parlor, 15 x 17 feet.
E, Bed Room, 10 x 16 feet.
F F, Passages, 3½ feet wide.
G, Kitchen. 16 x 17 feet.
H, Froot Stairs, 3 feet clear.
I, Closet under Stairs.
J, Bed Room Closet.
K, L, Cheese Room and Pantry.
M, Wood House, 24 x — feet.
N, O, Fireplace and Oven.
P, P, Piazza, 7 feet wide.
Q, Piazza, 6 feet wide.
R, Back and Cellar Stairs
S, Wood House Stairs.
T, Closet.
V, Cistern.
W, Outside Cellar Door.
X X, Cupboards.
1, Place for Stove.
2, False Firepiece.

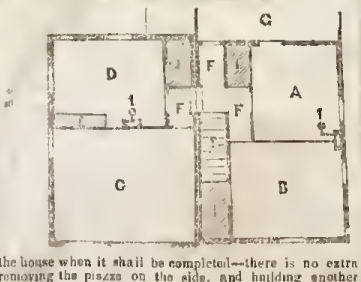


Drawn on a scale of fifteen feet to the inch.

FIG. 31.—GROUND PLAN—SECOND FLOOR.

EXPLANATION.

A, Room 11 x 11 ft.
B, do 11 x 14 ft.
C, do 14 x 17 ft.
D, do 10 x 14 ft.
1 1 1 1, Closets.
F F F, Passages.
G, Garret over Kitchen.
1 1, Stove Pipes and Chimneys.
S, Stairs.



The explanations of the ents refer to the house when it shall be completed—there is no extra room to be kept for great occasions; by removing the piazza on the side, and building another wing, an extra parlor can be obtained, which may communicate with the other by folding or sliding doors if desired, and also a small office or library communicating with this parlor and the bed room. This would give the exterior a more regular appearance.

The bed room is to be warmed by the pipe from the parlor stove passing through the false fire place into a chimney, and thence up through the room above, which it would warm some, into the chimney. The cooking stove might be placed in the room marked A., in cold weather, the pipe passing through the room above into the chimney. This would keep the house comfortably warm with two fires.

The pantry, cheese room and cellar stairs are placed with a view to this arrangement, and the parlor and bed room are separated from this room by a passage for the same reason.

In the ground plans the doors are represented by fine single lines, and the windows by double lines. The bedroom window which opens on to the piazza should reach down to the floor, as also the parlor window opposite the steps. The stairs are crowded forward into the hall some, to bring the landing at the top in the right place. They are lighted at the top by an attic window at the end of the central passage F.

The windows of each room are made to look out to as many points of the compass as possible, as it adds much to the pleasantness of the house, especially in warm weather; and the doors which communicate from one room to another, are nearly in direct lines.

It is not to be expected that a plan can be made to suit all situations; the formation of the ground, and the point of compass to which it most front, would necessarily require it to be varied, in some cases, even if the plan itself suited in the detail. This may be done by inverting the plan, an easy way of doing which is to place it before a window and draw the lines on the opposite side of the paper.

I have drawn this to be built of wood, as that is the most common way of building. It may be built of brick or stone, by allowing a little more for thickness of walls.

T. WALONT.

Chicago, Sept. 1841.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Any of our correspondents who have interesting subjects upon which to write, are most earnestly requested to send us communications soon. As will be perceived, our paper lacks material interest, because we have so little to publish from the farmers themselves. At least three pages should be occupied with original communications; and four would be still better.

The communications of Mr. Edson Harkness of Peoria co., and "S." of Delavan, Walworth co. W. T. (Mr. F W. Sipperly, we suppose) are received too late for this No. and will be given in the next.

Communications from the following persons out of the district of the U. A. S., have been received. Abm. Van Doren, Prairie La Porte, Clayton co., Iowa; D. H. T. Moss, Oregon City; Geo. H. Stebbins, Southport, W. T.; S. Bush, Wethersfield, Henry co.; Geo L. Rose, Rome, Peoria co.; P. Holmes, 2, Tremont Tazewell co.; R. B Shumb, Fairfield, Wayne co.; R. Sinclair, Jr & Co., Baltimore, Md.; A. A Hemenway, Franklin, Walworth co., W. T., Charles G. Thomas, Galena; John Coventry, Delaware, Jersey co; D. F. Bonnell, Jerseyville; Chas. Wolcott, Sugar Creek, W. T., John Atwood, Alton; J. Garner, Wadham's Grove, Stephenson co.; R. Tillson, Quincy; Geo. W. Little, Farmington, Peoria co.

Having been absent during the publication of the last two Nos, we will briefly notice some of the communications.

We are greatly obliged to Mr. Wood of Sangamon co., for his correspondence with Mr. Churchill upon hedging; and shall expect the fulfillment of his promise to furnish *facts.* We have several interesting correspondents from Sangamon, but have room for many more. We will thank Messrs. Wood, Bowers, Brown, Allen, Bradford and other friends to write more, and induce their neighbors to do likewise.

Mr. Timothy Turner's kind letter from Madison co, was most gratefully received. We have considerable assistance from that co., both in correspondence and subscriptions; but we think not enough. It is one of the oldest and best farming counties in the State, and we have expected much aid from it. We doubt not Messrs. Turner, Churchill and others who are interesting themselves in behalf of the paper will do all they can.

To Mr. Houston and Judge Wilson of Crawford co., we return our sincere thanks for their efforts in procuring subscribers, and shall hope to hear from them often. Doubtless Crawford co. will yet engage strongly in the cause of agricultural improvement.

A. Armstrong, Esq., we hope will not fail to keep us informed of the progress of the Wabash co. Society; and that he will also aid us by inducing his neighbors both to subscribe and write for the paper.

In "S." of Michigan City, we have a warm friend; and should he ever come this way he must give us a call. If his real name be not John Smith we should like to have him write over his proper signature; but if that be his name, S. is about as definite, and it is immaterial whether he change the signature or not.

The inquiry of Mr. Cyrus relative to winter wheat, we shall leave for our correspondents to answer. Why don't they write more upon a subject of so much interest to every farmer? Mr. C. we shall hope to hear from often.

We much prefer that Mr. Brayshaw should arrange the remainder of his address in separate articles, as he proposes. Long communications do not find favor with the generality of readers. We shall expect to hear from him soon and often.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

We are greatly indebted to the courtesy of publishers and editors for a most valuable exchange list. We say *courtesy*, for ours certainly cannot be considered an equivalent for such works as those noticed below. But we would say to them and to other publishers who may be willing to favor us in a like manner, that we will endeavor to make up for the inequality by obtaining subscribers; and as we keep a sort of reading room, where our friends from the country have an opportunity to see our exchanges, we shall doubtless be able to obtain many subscribers. Do not be frightened at the size of your works being placed in a reading room. They are scarcely looked at except by the farmers and others from the country; so that they are only seen enough, to give a desire to see them more. And as a farmer is but seldom in town, if he sees a work he likes much, he will be very likely to subscribe for it.

Subscriptions for any of the following works, or for any agricultural publication, will be received by us and forwarded.

MAGAZINE OF HORTICULTURE.—Most cordially do we welcome to our exchange list this invaluable publication; the only one of the kind, we believe, in the U. S. It is published monthly by Hovey & Co., Boston, at $3 per annum. To the horticulturist and florist we would say, you cannot expend $3 better than in subscribing for this work.

ORCHARDIST'S COMPANION.—The publisher of this splendid work has been kind enough to send us the two first Nos. It is a quarterly publication, commenced 1st April, 1841. The best edition contains in each No., 12 beautifully colored

lithograph engravings of fruit of the natural size with stems and leaves; and a full description of the fruit, its origin, &c. The price of this is $7 a year in advance, or $2 per quarter. A secondary edition, containing the same reading matter, with only three engravings, is published at $3 a year in advance, or $1 per quarter. The size is medium quarto, and the execution is excellent.

It is a national work: the author intending to continue it till a complete description of American fruit is furnished. Are there not some of our readers who will forward $3 for the first No.? Let them get the first and they will be certain to obtain the others.

Hunt's Merchant's Magazine.—The July, August, and September Nos. of this work are before us, and for want of room we are unable to notice their contents at this time. The work has established a reputation as one of the best periodicals in the country; and for those desirous of informing themselves concerning the business and finances of the country, it is just the work they want.

The American Repertory.—We received the September No. of this valuable work, but lost it before we had given it an examination. We shall be much obliged to the editor if he will forward us another. The work is invaluable to us, as it gives a history of the new inventions in agricultural machines and implements, as well as all others. We should be sorry to lose a single No.

The Investigator, is the title of a monthly periodical which Dr. John Thomas of Kendal co., Ills., proposes to publish in a quarto form of 8 pages, at $1 a year, in advance. Its columns will be occupied with useful and general information upon such subjects as civil and ecclesiastical history; experimental, natural and mental philosophy; international events, &c., and will have nothing to do "with the bickerings of political factions."

We cordially wish Dr. T success; and hope with this addition to his labors that he will not forget the claims of the Union Agriculturist upon his pen, to which he has been an able contributor.

Address, *post paid*, John Thomas, M. D., Bristol, Kendal co., Illinois.

The Cow Dairy Maid and Calves.—We are indebted to Mr. A. Hoffy, of Baltimore, for a beautiful lithograph of the celebrated Short-horn Durham cow Dairy Maid, and her calves Leander and Allenadale. It is a beautiful picture, and we doubt not some of the colored ones would find a ready sale at our Repository.

The Spirit of the Times.—We have been anxiously looking for this valuable paper, and fear it may have miscarried. Will Mr. Porter please look on his books and see if he has the address correct?

The Silk Journal.—Dr. G. B. Smith, the editor and publisher, has presented us with a full set of the Journal of the American Silk Society. To those who are beginning the culture of silk we would say, you had best, by all means, procure this work. It is a compilation of valuable matter which you cannot procure at so small cost from any other source.

The Canadian Farmer and Mechanic, is the title of a new paper commenced at Kingston, U. C., the second No. of which has reached us. We place it on our exchange list with much pleasure, and would like to have the 1st No.

Want of time and room will prevent our noticing other works in this No.

Fair of the American Institute.—The 14th Annual Fair of the American Institute commences the 11th Oct. There are a great variety of premiums offered for the best kinds of stock, flowers, fruits, vegetables, &c. The following are of general interest to agriculturists and we therefor insert them.

For the largest and most complete assortment of Agricultural Sowing Machines, exhibited by any person or firm. *Gold Medal*

For the largest and most complete assortment of Horticultural Tools. Implements, suitable for a Gardener. *Gold Medal*

For the best Silk Reel which shall be an improvement on any heretofore exhibited *Gold Medal*

For the best specimen of Butter, not less than one hundred pounds, with a written description of the process of making. *Gold Medal*

For the best specimen of Cheese, not less than one hundred pounds with a written description of making. *Gold Medal.*

Premium for Vases, Urns, Artificial Fountains, Sunshade and contrivances of all or of economical construction for exhibiting Fruit, Vegetables, and Flowers to advantage, at the Fourteenth Annual Fair.

For the best Treatise on Silk, intended as a guide for the Young Culturist, from the growing of the Mulberry to the completion of the reeling. *Gold Medal and Fifty Dollars.*

For the best Design for a Landscape and Ornamental Garden, with explanations. *Gold Medal*

For the best Practical Treatise on Fruit and Garden Vegetables. *Gold Medal.*

Coarse and Fine Woolled Sheep.—Mr. E W Brewster, on page 58, controverts the opinion advanced by us in the June No., that it is better to raise coarse than fine woolled sheep Our object was to elicit discussion: and as Mr. B. says, it is a question that must be decided by facts. We shall expect communications upon this important subject, from every one having any experience.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST.

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

SEPTEMBER, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

John Dean Caton, of Will Co., President.

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Lewis Ellsworth,	Du Page "	
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Jno. S. Wright,	da. "	Rec. Sec.
Do.	do. "	Cor. Sec.

We are once more at home, after an absence of about six weeks, and glad we are again to enter upon the delightful duties connected with this paper. The East has charms to make a limited period pass pleasantly; though a residence of nine years in the West must wholly obliterate one's affection for it, even if it be the land of one's birth. Almost any of us can pass a few weeks—perhaps months—agreeably in visiting old acquaintances and friends, but it is because we feel the West to be our *home*, and that we can return thither at our pleasure.

Perhaps some reader may conceive this to be merely an editorial *flourish*. Some young man, who left friends and all the comforts of home to seek his fortune alone in the far West, looks forward to his return to the East, as the height of all his wishes. He could bid adieu to the West with a gladsome heart; and thinks a sigh for Western scenes and pleasures would never escape him. To such an one we would earnestly recommend, that if within six months he were not ten fold more home-sick for the West, he would be one of a thousand. Some young wife too, who *"for the cause,"* has left "father and mother," thinks it rather a hard life to lead, out in these "Western wilds," so far from friends, without society, etc. Let her husband send her back, with the understanding when she leaves, that she shall not return for three or six months: he will soon receive letters wishing he were with her; then wishing for an opportunity to return with some friend, then urging him to come for her; and finally, telling him if he do not come soon she shall start for *home* alone. But keep her away till the fixed time for her return, and she will not be so urgent to leave again for many a day. There is something most bewitching in this Western life. We cannot describe it, nova never attempted to analyse it; and we rest perfectly satisfied with merely realising its existence.

Farmers Write Us.—One of the most encouraging indications as to the success of the Union Agriculturist, a few months ago, was the great abundance of original communications. Had there been no delay in the paper, we should begin to be discouraged at the change exhibited in our columns, but we could not expect to hear from the farmers, when they had too much reason to suppose there was no such paper as the Union Agriculturist to which to write. For the last few weeks too, they have been very busy harvesting and getting off their produce to market so as to avail themselves of the high prices, but the hurry being principally over, we shall now expect to hear often from them. We expect, in fact, to have a flood of valuable original matter. There are all the statements relative to farming operations the past year—the experiments with the results upon which to write.

And here we would urge those who have experimented and been unsuccessful, to state their plans of operations, with the causes of failure. Oftentimes as much valuable information may be derived from such accounts, as from those that have been most successful.

It has been our boast, and it is the first recommendation to a new subscriber, that so much of our paper is filled with matter prepared by the Western farmer, who so well understands what is required by its readers. It has been noticed by other papers; and the example of the farmers of Illinois has been held up as worthy of imitation by those living in older States; and we do not believe they will now flag.

We most earnestly beseech of you to write As you value the credit of this Western paper, Hoosiers, Suckers, Badgers and Hawkeyes, *write*, WRITE.

To those not receiving the Paper.—Occasionally a number of the paper may miscarry; although as we up in good wrappers and plainly directed. To those who happen to miss a number we would say, do not get in a passion about it, nor tax us with postage unreasonably. Nine times out of ten the fault is not with us; and in once out of ten the fault is not with us: and instead of writing a letter as short as pie crust, and oh! how tart, you would just request the P M to return us your paper was not received, it would answer every purpose, and save us much unpleasant feeling, and we are certainly much unpleasant enough where there is cause for it, without fictitious causes being sought for. Please do not make us allude to this again.

The Farmer's Reading Room.—Being now in full possession at 112 Lake Street, we invite the farmers to call and see us when they come to town. All our exchange papers, agricultural works, etc., are kept here for the purpose of giving the farmers a means to spend a leisure half-hour pleasantly & profitably. Frequently after completing their business, they are detained in town waiting for a companion or something of the sort, and later away an hour or two which hangs heavily enough for the want of something to be engaged in. By just calling at our office, we can assist them in "killing time" to some profit; and we will only ask of them to record their names in the book for visitors, and impart to us some useful information for the benefit of the paper.

To the Volunteers.—Those who volunteered their services at Naperville, for a given length of time, to secure a particular region in procuring subscribers to the capital stock and to the paper, will receive a copy of a prospectus and a subscription book with this No. Nothing will prevent those who are really interested in the cause of agricultural improvement from giving themselves to the work at once. It will very soon be known who the real friends are, and as fast as returns are received they shall be published in the paper.

Should any one exert himself and be unsuccessful, let him communicate the fact that it may be published; and that if there be any district in the bounds of the Society indifferent to its prosperity, it may be known and marked out. Where communications of this kind are not received, unless a goodly number of subscribers are sent, it will at once be concluded, that the volunteer offered his services for effect merely; and upon some future occasion the Society will know how to value such offers.

☞ Remember the time is up the 20th of November.

N B. Those to whom we have heretofore sent books for subscription to the Capital Stock, we shall not send at this time, unless they request it; for there are not enough on hand to send extra copies.

Those who were not able to be present at the Fair, and who of course had no opportunity to volunteer their services, but who are willing to engage heart and soul in this cause for a few days at this very important period, are requested to send in their names; stating for how many days they will serve, or what district of country they will scour, and their names will be given with the others in the next No. of the paper.

In Lake and McHenry counties there are no volunteers, and they are much needed there, for subscribers are few and far between.

Sow Lettuce seed, &c., this fall.—It has been stated in agricultural papers, that by sowing lettuce, radish, tomato and other seeds in the fall, much earlier vegetables will be obtained in the spring. We intend making the experiment; and for those who have not hot-beds it would seem to be a very good substitute. The ground is to be prepared, and the seed sown, the same as in the spring.

The Cultivation of Flax, might be as well attended to by Western farmers, as that of hemp. Why should not seed enough be raised to furnish at least linseed oil for our own use? No soil can be better adapted to it; and we shall expect some one to furnish original communications upon the subject. We would prefer to give instructions for the culture of the various products of the farm, from the pen of a Western farmer, than to make selections from articles prepared for a different region.

Sale of Irish Graziers.—We are rejoiced to hear that Lewis Ellsworth, Esq. has bought the boar Daniel O'Connell; and Gen. Bill, the sow Judith, which were exhibited by J. S. Norton, Esq. of Rockford, at the Fair at Naperville, and took the prizes. The boar was sold for $150, and the sow for $100. They are full blooded Irish Graziers. It will be most gratifying to the farmers to learn that they can now get some of this stock; and Messrs. Ellsworth and Bill deserve the thanks of the community for returning those fine animals in the district of the Union Agricultural Society. They will doubtless get something more substantial than mere thanks.

Delegations from Agricultural Societies.—The attendance of Messrs. Stuart and Ames from the Laporte Co. Society, and of Mr. Norton from Winnebago, has brought forcibly to mind the advantage of appointing delegates from one Society to attend the meeting of another. By this means the agricultural brotherhood is still more strongly united, and the interest of the meetings much increased. A word of encouragement from a stranger, oftentimes has a powerful effect; and it stimulates a society to still greater exertions to hear what is being done by its neighbors. Mr Stuart's remarks were excellent, and would have been of service coming from any one, but doubtless they were more valued coming from a stranger, than if he had been one of our own members.

La Salle Co. Auxiliary Society.—From some remarks we heard at the Fair, we are inclined to believe La Salle will take the lead in organizing a county Society auxiliary to the U. A. S. We have not learned that one has been organised in Kendal, though we hope there may be one in full operation. These auxiliaries are necessary to give efficiency to the parent Society, and to remove the objections existing in the minds of many that it is too large. Will not the friends of the Society meeting in the several counties see that meetings are called at once to complete these organizations? Nothing would more certainly increase the interest in the parent Society. Do not wait till doomsday for one another to move in this matter; but let two or three in a county fix upon a time when a meeting shall be called to take the preliminary steps, appointing a committee to report a constitution and by laws; and adjourn the meeting to some definite day, during the session of court for instance, when the constitution and by-laws will be reported for adoption, officers elected, &c.

A Present of a Plough.—Mr. F. Ames of Michigan City has presented us with a plough manufactured at the foundry of F. Ames & Co., at that place. It is the identical plough that took the premium at the late Fair of the Laporte County Society, and is indeed a beautiful and substantial piece of workmanship. In a few days it will be at the Repository for the inspection of farmers.

The great advantage of this plough is, that it will scour in our rich prairie soil, at least Mr. Ames has numerous testimonials to that effect. At the Fair one was tried, with others, which did not clear itself as well as one manufactured at Lockport; but Mr. A. did not consider the trial satisfactory, as his was used in soft cultivated land, and the Lockport plough where the people had been standing around and had packed the earth. Moreover, Mr. A's. plough had not been worked before, and was not sufficiently polished.

We have given it to a friend in the country for a thorough trial, and will publish the results.

Mr Ames attended the Fair, accompanied with Mr Stuart, the editor of the Michigan City Gazette; and certainly great credit is due them for their enterprise in coming so far, nearly 100 miles. Our Society is much indebted for their excellent example; and another year it will be seen the effect upon as has not been lost.

New York State Agricultural Fair.—We had the pleasure of being present at this great Fair, held at Syracuse on the 29th and 30th Sept., and could not help wishing there had not been half the variety and quantity of stock exhibited. There were so many fine animals, that, to one like ourself, unaccustomed to such shows, the sight was perfectly bewildering. A man must know himself to be a first rate judge, to even pretend to pass judgment between animals so fine, and of such superior blood as were there exhibited. We have not room to particularize, but among others saw many short horn Durhams, the Herefords, a Yorkshire cow; the Cotswold, Southdown, Bakewell, and Lincoln sheep; the heavy draught horse and the fleet racer: the Sarkshire, Neapolitan, and Leicester hogs, some very fine common stock, and 2 yokes of oxen of mammoth size.

We here again met that warm friend of agriculture, Solon Robinson, Esq; and in the Marshal of the day, Henry Saldwin, Esq., found an old friend to whom we were much indebted for kind attentions. It was to us a most delightful day; and would be long remembered, were it only for the introductions with which we were favored, to many of the spirited agriculturists of the Empire State.

In behalf of the U. A. S., of our State, and of the West, we gave them an invitation to partake of Western Hospitality, and see the progress of agricultural improvement even in the "wilds of the West;" and we doubt not that if any of them could be present at a fair of the U. A S, five years hence, they would see an exhibition of stock that would be nearly, if not quite, equal to their own of this year. Farmers, shall it not be so?

Hemp Culture in Illinois.—Many of the newspapers are awakened to the culture of hemp in the West, and we hope they will continue to pour light upon this subject till our farmers shall see it in all its importance. The Alton Telegraph has furnished a judicious article upon it, and the Sangamon Journal has published the essay upon its culture which has appeared in our previous numbers. Keep hammering away gentlemen, the subject will bear it. A recent No of the Journal, also contains a circular signed by the merchants of Springfield, strongly urging the farmers to cultivate hemp. No one in the State would refuse to sign it. As an inducement to enter upon its culture, Messrs. S. M. Tinsley & Co., of Springfield, very generously offer to procure seed for those wishing it, at the actual cost.

Another year will doubtless show many a thrifty field of this valuable production waving on the rich prairies of the West. The Morgan Co. Society offers a premium of $20 for the best field of 5 acres; and this excellent example will doubtless be imitated by others.

Sheep moving from Illinois to Iowa.—The Burlington Hawkeye says Mr. Wm Thompson, who has a very extensive farm near Grand View, I. T., is doing immense good to the Territory by bringing into it sheep from Sangamon and Morgan counties, Illinois, and selling them in lots to suit purchasers. As to the good that will result to the Territory from this course, there can be but one opinion; and so far as the Territory is concerned, we rejoice in the spirit of improvement manifested by its inhabitants, but when we think of the drain upon our own State we regret it, and think it meagre policy thus to sell stock which citizens of other parts have to bring from Ohio. Thousands of sheep are annually brought from Ohio and Indiana, and still they do not come fast enough. We would suggest whether it would not be quite as well for Iowa, and far better for Illinois, if the farmers of the Territory would go a little farther East for their sheep. The editor says of Morgan and Sangamon counties, and the credit is their due, "we ate some better sheep cannot be found, than are raised in that section of Illinois."

The Fair at Naperville.—A full account of the proceedings of the U A. S. at the meeting at Naperville, on the 20th Oct. will be given in the next No.

Full Blooded Berkshires.—We have some pigs 10 weeks old, a Sow two years old, from the stock of the late Judge Buel; a Boar, a year old, all full-blooded Berkshires; a Leicestershire Sow; and two Neapolitan Sows, which we are anxious to sell, not having conveniences for watching them. We will sell them cheap for cash; or produce will be taken in pay.

GREAT YIELD OF WOOL.—Mr. Harvey Strong, of this vicinity, has a sheep from which he has sheared 10 lbs. of fine wool this year. Do the farmers of Laporte County know what an easy matter it is to raise 50 such sheep, and that their fleeces in the New York market would bring $250, while the transportation would not amount to over $10? —*Laporte Whig.*

CURIOUS PRODUCT.—The New Orleans Bee says: "We saw an agricultural curiosity lately, in the shape of an ear of corn, upon the extremity of which, near the pendent silky fibres, were firmly engrafted four or five large pods of kidney beans The negro girl who had this singular product, was too ignorant to inform us how the process of engrafting had been managed."

EXPERIMENTS.—Forty years passed away after the Spinach was enlivated by a few of the wealthy, before it was offered in the city markets in the U. States. Rhuberb, or pie plant, was almost as long coming into favor, and the Tomato, which is one of the most wholesome and grateful of vegetables, is yet but partially known among farmers. We know a farmer who only a year or two since, destroyed tomato vines for fear the fruit would poison his children and pigs. History tells us, the French physicians condemned potatoes as poisonous, after they had been extensively used a hundred years. Our finest fruits have been produced by experimenting with trees which bore what was unpalatable in a wild state, and even some of our most splendid flowers, when in their native forests, are by no means sightly. The Empress of China ascertained the *modus operandi* of making silk by experimenting with disgusting worms, on the mulberry leaf, and may we not suppose experiments will yet bring into use many things more irmversally rejected. Let no one be afraid to experiment, for it has been by experiments, all discoveries in the arts and sciences have been made.—*Ten. Agr.*

DOMESTIC SILK.—We have received a skein of sewing silk manufactured by E. Lock, of Aurora, Kane Co, Illinois. It has been exhibited to several dealers in the article, and persons who use it, and they pronounced it, in many respects, equal to the imported article. The want of proper machinery is evident in the twist of the thread, but the strength is greater, notwithstanding this, than most of the imported silk.—*St. Louis Repub.*

A FREAK OF NATURE.—Among the "distinguished strangers" who visited our city on Commencement day, we noticed a *four-legged Chicken*, which was hatched in the henery of a farmer in the neighboring town of Orange It had attained to about the size of a quail, and appeared to be as healthy and sprightly as any of the feathered race In its general appearance there was nothing to distinguish it from ordinary chickens, except an extra pair of legs, which were attached to its body near that extremity where the tail is appended These extra drumsticks appeared to be of but little if any use, although they were well formed, and were furnished with the usual appendage of feet, claws, &c. They had not, however, kept up with the *forelegs* in growth; but were far *behind* their companeers, in size as well as location. On unfolding the wings, they were found to be provided with an extra pair of joints. What is very remarkable, in the natural history of this little fellow, is the fact that he is a *quadruped*, while all his numerous family connections, from parents, brothers and sisters, down to the remotest degree of cousinship, are more *bipeds*.—*Far. Gaz.*

CHARCOAL FOR SHEEP.—A gentleman who owns a large real estate in Maine, tells us that sheep are very fond of charcoal, and will eat it in considerable quantities. He names several instances in which they have been known to thrive rapidly, and to rid them of ticks when they could have access to coal and coal dust — Our friends who keep sheep will do well to consider whether free access to a coal-pit would not prove as useful to sheep as to hogs, and tend to prevent or to mitigate the diseases to which they are subject. We are inclined to think it probable, that coal dust would prove very unwelcome to ticks and to other vermin, which find a harbor in the coats of animals; but we have never tried it.—*Ed.*

FREEZING OF POTATOES.—*Editors of the Albany Cultivator*—In your February No. in a paper from J. M. Garnett, on the "Preservation of roots," I noticed the following "Why those roots should always be destroyed when they freeze above ground, and not suffer equally when frozen under ground, is a matter of which I have never yet seen any explanation; it is among the numerous mysteries in vegetable physiology, for the cause of which we have yet to search."

Now vegetables exposed to atmospheric transitions, necessarily are affected more suddenly in their temperature than those which are buried in the earth, yet subject to frost It is a well known fact, that in the freezing of water, caloric or heat is given out, consequently in the freezing of the earth around the root, which is kept above the surrounding temperature by its own vitality, caloric is liberated, and, therefore, the root freezes more slowly. So in thawing, the temperature is increased more gradually, requiring several days to raise it above the freezing point, if the root be five or six inches below the surface, when, if exposed to the atmosphere above ground, as many hours, would produce the same result.

The extent of injury done to vegetables by freezing, does not depend so much upon the lowness of temperature, nor upon the length of time they are frozen, as upon their quick transition from one temperature to another. These facts apply particularly to the tuberous roots, and in a greater or less degree to the whole animal and vegetable kingdom.

Every root will be liable to injury by frost in proportion to its vitality; and the potato of which Mr. Garnett was speaking, possesses this principle in an eminent degree.

In the native state, the tubers were very small; but then, as now, were intended as reservoirs of moisture, nourishment and vital energy, which enables them to resist the injurious effects of cold to almost any extent, when not so suddenly applied, or, what is of much more importance, when the temperature in thawing is not too quickly raised above the freezing point. Some of the spindle roots possess this property of vitality in a much greater extent than the potato: such as the parsnip, horse-radish, artichoke, and some others.

If the experiment be tried, it will be found that the potato will not freeze below 27° or 28° of Fahrenheit; and unless it is proved that they freeze at 32°, the reason here assigned must be considered good as far as they go. If I have erred in my statement, I desire to be corrected if not, the subject is not a "mystery."

E. S. B.

USEFUL RECIPES.

GANGRENE OR HOOF AIL.—The following is the remedy of Dr. Dodge for hoof-ail referred to on page 17.

"Acting on the conviction that the *hoof ail* is the result of morbific matter introduced into the system through the medium of the *ingesta*, or food, and that the particular state induced is that of *gangrene*, as before denominated, we recommend that the stomach and first passages of the animal be thoroughly evacuated by physic Take of Gum Aloes, 1-2 oz., Gum Gamboge, 1 dr., Cream Tartar, 1 oz.

As elsewhere observed, the reaction or fever never being much, general bleeding is unnecessary. Should it, however, be indicated, we should not hesitate in taking away the blood in liberal qualities. This direction we give in relation to every species of gangrene, whether in the human or brute; local absurections of blood are, however, generally serviceable, particularly when employed in the commencement of the complaint

Cleanliness, absolute cleanliness, should be strictly enjoined in all cases of gangrene. Soap and water are, therefore, among our first means, and should be used throughout the entire difficulty

Regarding, as we have done, this disease as highly malignant, even from the start, and disposed to a rapid expenditure of the vital energies, we are satisfied that our chief reliance should be placed on local means—on means which partake decidedly of a tonic stimulating character; irritation, imparted directly to the part by mechanical means—rubbing them briskly, and scarrifying them freely with a knife A very convenient way of performing a compound action, essentially required, is to amputate portions of the feet with a chisel and mallet. By this process two indications are fulfilled at once, namely, a liberal abstraction of blood, and mechanical excitation It has, also, the effect to change the action, or to subvertt the malignant disposition present. The moment healthy action can be induced, that moment the part is saved, and further distinction abviated. Many of the local applications mentioned under our first head of remedial means, will be found valuable in these cases, in addition to which, the following are subjoined. Take of Soap, Castile, 1 oz., Spirits of Turpentine, 2 oz, Sweet Oil, 1-2 oz., M.

The *Capsicum* seems to be a valuable exciting remedy in this disease. The tincture may be used, or, what is perhaps better, the subjoined preparation, Cayenne Pepper, pulv., 3 table spoons full, Common Salt, pulv., 2 table spoons full. Make them into a paste, and pour upon them one pint of boiling water—to this, when filtered, add a pint of strong vinegar; this liquor may be applied to the sloughing parts several times a day. Or a very valuable lotion may be had in a saturated solution of common salt by French brandy. All topical applications, however, must vary according to the indications of the disease, and must be prescribed under the regulations already intimated Or, take of Gum Camphor, 2 oz., Spirits of Turpentine, 1 oz., Sweet Oil, 1 oz.

The applications herein mentioned, and the means instituted, will, if perseveringly used, prove unavorsally successful. Try them, and prove them.

WATER-PROOF DUBBING FOR LEATHER. *Keep your feet dry and head cool.*—To render leather water-proof, and at the same time to preserve its elasticity, is a matter of great importance, as it increases its durability, and protects those who apply it to shoes or boots from the mischievous effects arising from damp or wet feet. The following receipt followed out carefully, it is believed, will effect this object:

Take a pint of linseed oil, two ounces of beeswax, two ounces of spirits of turpentine, and a half an ounce of Burgundy pitch, and slowly melt them together, continuing to stir them so as thoroughly to incorporate them, being careful not to set the mass on fire, as the ingredients are all combustible. When the compound cools, it will be found to be about as elastic as leather ought to be. If it were harder, it would cause the leather to crack or break when bent; and if it were softer, water would enter and wash it out. To apply it, re-melt it, warm the shoes or boots, and put it on with a small brush or a sponge, or piece of cloth tied on the end of a stick; continue to warm it in till the leather is well saturated with it, and particularly the bottoms of the soles and heels. It should always be applied when the boots or shoes are new, and then lay them by to season some time before wearing. Leather thus treated will be found impervious to water, and will wear twice as long as that to which it has not been applied. The writer has used this article for many years, and can testify to the great benefits derived from it; and he has no doubt but his shoemaker's bill has been reduced to one half by the use of this composition; and what has been saved by doctors' bills he is unable to estimate.

Common grease applied to leather tends to rot it, and it is soon washed out in wet weather.—*Farmer's Cabinet.*

MANGE IN DOGS.—Mr. Joshua Goode, an old sportsman, well skilled in all that pertains to horse and hound, furnishes the Southern Planter with the following recipe for the mange, or scratches to which the dog is subject:

"Give 50 grains of arsenic twice a week; mix equal quantities of red precipitate and venice turpentine in hogs lard, with which he should be annointed two or three times a week. Repeat the arsenic and ointment, taking care to rub the latter in well until the dog is cured; this will be evidenced by the healthy appearance of his coat, and the increased liveliness of the animal. It will generally be effected in two or three weeks. I have after much practice found it infallible."

CURE FOR SORE TEATS.—Scarcely a dairy of cows can be found in which more or less are not subject to sore teats, and from the irritation thus caused, much trouble in milking, and loss of milk ensue. The following preparation, if kept on hand and applied occasionally to such udders and teats as require it, will prevent or cure the disease. Sometimes the flies will be troublesome; if so add one ounce of asafœtida or aloes in powder, and incorporate it thoroughly with the ointment. Sometimes the teats are tender only. When this is the case, washing with weak salt and water is beneficial, and usually sufficient.

Ointment made of sweet elder, four ounces.
Yellow bastilicon ointment, four ounces.
Spirits of turpeotine, one ounce.
Mix and well incorporate on a slab or in a mortar, and it is fit for use.—*Selected.*

WATER ROTTED HEMP, being worth considerably more in market than dew-rotted, we insert the following instructions from the Kentucky Farmer.

The first thing to be done in making preparation for the business of water-rotting hemp, is the formation of suitable vats or pools. These will generally be most conveniently and easily made upon some *small* stream of water. A *small* stream constantly fed by a few good springs is recommended; because, having once filled the vats, it will afford an ample supply of water without subjecting the farmer to the inconvenience and injury which a large and rapid stream would obviously occasion, both by its deposites of mud upon the hemp, and the violent action of its current on the embankments of the vat. A solid limestone bottom is an advantage, contributing as it does, to the cleanliness of the business. Our numerous small streams or "*branches*," afford us the opportunity of selecting a site combining all these advantages. In selecting a place for the vats, it would be better to choose a position to the Northeast of the dwelling-house, so that our prevailing South-west winds may carry off the unpleasant, if not unwholesome effluvia arising from hemp as it rots. Having, on consideration of all circumstances made choice of a site, the vats should be dug out about 3 feet deep, and should be about 6 feet long, and 40 feet broad. These dimensions may, of course, vary at pleasure; but this size would probably by most convenient, as it could be filled or emptied by two hands in one day. Such a vat would hold the produce of about two acres of hemp of an average quality. Several vats would probably be necessary; and if so, they should be dug adjoining each other, leaving only the embankment as a passway between them.

Having dug the vats, an outlet should be formed for the steam, by opening a channel over the lower embankment some 5 or 6 inches deep. The bottom of this channel should be covered with plank or stone, to prevent the injurious action of the current. Nothing remains to complete the vats except to make a platform large enough to hold an ordinary sledo and to persons, across that *corner* of the vat nearest to the field on which you intend spreading the hemp when taken from the vats

Having thus completed the vats, a quantity of plank about 8 inches broad, and about 10 feet long, should be procured, sufficient to cover the vats, leaving spaces of about one foot in width, between the rows of plank. A large quantity of stone should also be quarried and hauled to the vats. The plank and stone are to be used as hereafter directed, for the purpose of sinking the hemp in the water.

These preparations being made, the farmer will be ready to begin the operation of rotting the hemp, as soon as it has been cut and slightly cured. If he has laborers enough employed to cut his hemp in proper season, and to haul it to the vats, to put it in take it out and spread it every 6 or 7 days, he may save entirely the expense and trouble of stacking it. I will suppose, however, that the farmer has only such a force as will enable him to cut and stack his hemp, in proper time and in the usual manner. In this event, he must be careful not to permit his hemp to be blackened by rains before it is taken up and stacked; as this is thought not only to destroy the fivorite color of water-rotted hemp, but to injure essentially the strength of its fibres. Having been engaged some 3 or 4 days cutting hemp, the farmer should have all the hamp which is sufficiently cured, carefully tied in small straight bundles, and stacked in the usual manner. The whole crop should be cut, tied, and stacked in this way.

As early as possible after securing his hemp, the farmer should begin the business of rotting it. This is important, because that has much influence in hasting the process of rotting. In warm weather, the hemp will be ready to take out of the vats in five or six days; and will not swell so badly, whereas in winter it will sometimes require two months immersion in the water; and the business of filling and emptying the vats and spreading the hemp will then be most laborious, unpleasant, and unhealthy. This, any one can understand, by imagining himself engaged, on a raw cold day in January, in breaking the ice over a vat of hemp, which has been slowly rotting for sixty days; in lifting out the astonishing heavy bundles of this 'putrid mess,' and then spreading it wet, cold, and stinking on the ground. It may with more propriety be said that in summer or fall the gum which causes the fibres to adhere to the stalk is *dissolved*, then, that the hemp is *rotted* by the heat and water.

The first operation, when the farmer is ready to begin rotting his hemp, is to haul it to the vats. Carts are the most convenient vehicles for this purpose, as they can be at once unloaded by tilting up. Two hands with two carts should work together, as one should stand upon the stock while loading and hand the bundles to the other on the cart. A light but strong frame, should be fitted on the cart body, extending about 18 inches wider on each side, and two feet longer at each end than the body. It may be made by any one with a saw, auger, and hatchet. Take two pieces of scantling about 6½ feet long, to lay *across* the cart body before and behind; pin to the end of these, two pieces of wood or plank long enough to extend 2 feet before and behind the body, and connect the ends of these two last mennoned pieces with strips of plank, and the frame is complete. Pins put into the cross of scantling, will keep the frame steady and prevent it from slipping on the body. It is astonishing how much more hemp or hay can be carried on these frames, than on cart bodies without them. Any farmer will be well paid for the trouble and expense of making them.

Two hands will generally put the hemp in the vats as fast as two will haul it. Those engaged in putting in the hemp, should proceed as follows: Beginning on one of the sides opposite the platform, they should take the bundles of hemp and lay them down side by side in the water, the butt next to the bank, and the points straight out into the vat. Having laid down one row, begin as before, and lay another on top of the first, exactly in the same manner as before, except that the butts should be one foot further in the vat. When the 2nd row is completed about one foot of the butts of the 1st row will be visible, and the points of the 2nd or upper row will extend about one foot beyond the 1st. Lay down a 3rd row, putting the butts about one foot further than those of the 2nd. When three rows have been laid down, lay plank across them and the laborer can stand upon it and put down other rows. In this manner putting down three or four rows, and then laying plank across, the whole vat may be filled, without the laborer being under the necessity of wetting even his feet. The whole operation strongly resembles the mode in which shingles are placed upon a roof. A bulk of hemp, three or four bundles deep, will, when crossed with plank, form a raft which will support a man.

The distance that the butts of one row projects beyond those of the adjoining row, should vary to suit the depth of the vat, the length of the hemp and size of the bundles. If the hemp were seven feet long, and the butt ends of each row showed one foot, then it is evident that the vats would be filled with a bulk of hemp six bundles deep, which would probably average with ordinary bundles, about 3 feet in depth when first put in, but which would be diminished after laying in the water sometime. Any one however, will soon learn to apportion this so as to suit the depth of the vats and the quality of his hemp.

This arrangement of the bundles of hemp in the vats, will evidently leave the *tops* of the butts of the vat, and the butts at the surface. This is proper; because the butts being more difficult to rot, should be placed nearer the surface where the greater heat of the water expedites the process of decomposition. A uniform and regular rot is the consequence of this mode of arranging the hemp in the vats.

Having thus put in the hemp, and of course having crossed it with plank, the next operation is to sink it just to the surface of the water with stone. It had better be slightly above than below the surface, because as soon as saturated with water it will sink lower. The stone should not be larger than one man can readily carry, because the necessity of having two men to lift one stone, would accumulate so much weight upon the different plank as they walked over them, as to sink them in the water. The laborers cannot with such large stone '*weight*' down the hemp as soon as with smaller, nor can they escape if they use such, with dry feet. For the same reason logs of wood are still more objectionable. In '*weighting down*,' carry the stone to the farthest plank first, and sink it sufficiently, then the next, and so on in succession till completed. This mode will evidently permit the laborer to keep himself dry, by stepping on the unloaded plank, while carrying stone to the farthest.

Having in this manner sunk the hemp in the vats, it will require no additional labor till ready to be taken out; except that the farmer should by no means neglect *seeing* that the hemp is completely immersed in the water. This may *not* be the case from two causes. First, the weight of stone may not be sufficient, in which case the remedy is obvious, and secondly, the water may not be enough to cover all the hamp which being weighed to the bottom, is stationary. The remedy for this, should be found in the proper construction of the vats. The *outlets* for the water should be some five or six inches below the upper surface of the embankment, so that in an emergency (such as that suggested) by making a little dam across the outlet, you may be able to raise the water as much as desired. This accident of putting in more hemp than can be sunk in the vat, should

not, and with proper care will not often happen. It is, of course, bmt that the whole mass of hemp should float, neither resting on the mud at the bottom nor yet so buoyant as to leave any part above the water.

In warm weather, after four or five days, the farmer should carefully examine the hemp every day, until he ascertains that it is sufficiently rotted to take out. This he knows to be the case when the hemp has entirely lost its roughness to the finger, when moved along the stalk; and has become smooth, soft, and *oily* or slimy in feeling. Having reached this point, preparations must be immediately made for taking it out. For this purpose you will need six hands, to-wit: two at the vats, two to drive, two common slides, and two to spread the hemp early upon the ground. The stone is first removed from the whole vat, beginning, of course, with that which is on the nearest plank, and then standing on that to take the stone off the next, and so on in succession. Having removed the stone, you next remove *several* planks next to the *platform*, on which has been previously placed one of the slides to which one yoke of oxen are hitched. The slide is so placed as that the end shall be just opposite the water, leaving a very little space between it and the vatss, a bundle of hemp is then floated alongside the platform and opposite the end of the slide. The laborers on each side of the slide then take hold of the bundle of hemp, and lifting it gently our the water, place it across the slide. A hook or short forked stick, resembling such as farmers use in raking up hemp, will enable the two hands at the vats to take the hemp without tangling or breaking it. The weight of a bundle of hemp when just taken out is astonishingly great, and a very few will make a load for the slide. The first slide when loaded is driven off, and the second placed upon the platform, continuing thus to take off the plank as fast as the hemp is removed; it is evident that the whole may be floated to the platform, by persons walking on the embankments or removing plank, and be taken out with the assistance of hooks without necessarily wetting the laborers.

The hemp is carried on the slide to the place where it is to be spread, and the driver lifts the bundles off the slide at such distances apart as when spread will cover the whole surface of the field. The '*spreading*' is the most unpleasant part of the business. The next day, it should be turned over, which can readily be done by running a rod or small pole under the *points* of the hemp, and throwing it over, thus causing the tops of the hemp to describe semi-circles of which the *buts* are the centres. For the purpose of preventing mildew and unequal rotting, it is very important that the hemp should be turned over as soon as the upper surface is dry, and as this is but little labor, should never be omitted.

The hemp should remain down two or three weeks. Several rains falling upon it will improve the quality of the hemp and change it. Unless suffered to lie some time on the ground, the fibres become glued to the stalk, rendering it so difficult to break, that under this system of management, I am informed the ordinary task of an able bodied negro was only from 50 to 70 lbs. per day. This error among others in the management of hemp when taken from the vats, causing such difficulty in *breaking*, no doubt in a great degree led to the abandonment of the business by those who were some years since engaged in water-rotting hemp.

After lying two or three weeks on the ground, the hemp is taken up dry, and carefully '*shocked*' up till cool weather for breaking. Ninety pounds per day was the task given by Mr. Chas B. Lewis, to good hemp breakers, but 120 to 170lbs. were frequently broken.

I have thus endeavored, in the plainest manner to give you the system adopted by Mr. Lewis; nor have I any hesitation in expressing the belief that his management of hemp in most particulars was correct. The hemp which he prepared, for Mr. David Myerle last year, was of the finest quality, and did not when delivered at Lexington cost $10 per cwt. *all expenses paid.*

Having had no experience myself in the business of water-rotting hemp, it is by no means improbable that I may have erred in some of the numerous details of this business. If so, I will take occasion hereafter to correct all errors.

GEO. W. JOHNSON."

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

COOKING BEETS.—Take beets of middle size, and after removing the tops and dirt, roast them in a fire as potatoes are roasted. When done, they are peeled and served up in the usual manner. One who has tried them in this way, says they are much sweeter and richer than when boiled.—*Albany Cultivator.*

The following extract from Tyron's Way to Health," an old book, published in London in 1691, gives as clear, concise and correct a statement of the reasons for the use of meal without separating the coarse from the fine, as is contained in any thing published in modern times. The truth was ever the same then as it is now, and nature's true children as they have lived and spoken from age to age, have proved the truth to be one and the same "yesterday, to-day and forever."—*Health Journal.*

BREAD.—If you set any value on Health, and have a mind to preserve Nature, you must not separate the finest from the coarsest flour, because that which is fine is notarally of an obstructive and stopping quality; but on the contrary, the other which is coarse, is of a cleansing and opening nature: therefore that bread is best which is made of both together; for in the inward bran and skin of the wheat, is contained a quality which is of a sweet friendly nature, by reason whereof, the bread which is made of fine and coarse together, will not only be sweeter, and keep longer moist, but is also more wholesome and easier of digestion, gently loosening the bowels—it will strengthen also more than the other bread made of fine bolted flour. It must be confessed that the nutrimentura quality is contained in the fine flour; yet in the bran is contained the opening and digestive quality, and there is as great necessity of the one, as the other for the support of health—for when the finest flour is separated from the coarsest and branny parts, neither the one nor the other have the true operations of the flour of wheat.

By what has been said, we may gather that the eating of fine bread is inimical to Health, and contrary both to Nature and Reason, and was first invented to gratify wanton and luxurious persons, who are ignorent both of themselves, and the true virtue and efficacy of natural things.

CURING HAMS—A correspondent of the Farmers' Cabinet, gives the following recipe: and says there is as much difference between ham cured after the Jersey method and that of Virginia, "as there is between veal cutlet and fried sturgeon—between a young capon and a five year old rooster!" However that may be, we have always considered a ham from the "Old Dominion" as about the nicest that could be procured this side of Westphalia.

"I started, to give friend Botts, through the Cabinet, the Jersey mode of curing hams: and if it is once properly tried, he may lay that of his correspondent "D." quietly on the shelf; but as "D.'s" receipt will accompany this, the readers of the Cabinet can choose between them. The Jersey mode is—to every 80lbs. of hams, take 4 ounces brown sugar, 3 ounces saltpetre, and one pint of fine salt; pulverize and mix them thoroughly; rub the hams well, and lay them on boards for 36 or 48 hours; then pack them in casks, adding two quarts fine salt to every 80lbs. of hams. In 15 days they may be hung up to smoke.

"The Virginia mode is:—'Put to each joint a large tea-spoon-full of saltpetre; rub each piece well with salt on both sides, and pack them away in a hogshead with holes at the bottom, to let off the brine; let them remain for five or six weeks; then take out, brush off the salt, rub well with hickory ashes, and hang each piece in the smoke-house so as not to touch each other. Smoke 8 or 10 days, successively, and occasionally in damp weather; use small chips, but avoid pine." In my opinion, small chips of green hickory or apple trees, form the best material for smoking; and the best mode of keeping through summer is to tie up in bags with a little hay on the flesh side, suspending them out of the way of rats and mice."

PRESERVATION OF BUTTER.—Henry Wood, of England, has transmitted to the council of the Royal Agricultural Society, a jar of butter as a specimen of the successful mode adopted for its preservation when the article is intended for export to foreign climates

Mr. Wood informed the council that this butter had been prepared on the 19th inst. according to the process adopted in Eastern countries, where it was used for culinary purposes instead of hog's lard, which the Mahometan law prohibited, and would keep for any length of time in a perfect state of preservation, although it contained no salt, or other additional substance. This preservative state of the butter was induced by the removal of scum, and the dissipation of the watery particles of fresh butter, effected by the gentlest possible application of sufficient heat to produce the result. Mr. Wood stated that in Asia, this gentle heat was obtained by the natives by filling a large open earthenware pan with powdered and well-dried cow-dung, and then setting fire to it, introducing into the midst of the burning cow-dung an earthen vessel containing the butter, which became melted; and when the scum, as it rose, had been successively removed, and the watery particles driven off by the heat, it was poured into a jar, and preserved for use. Mr. Wood suggested that a sand-bath, properly regulated, might answer the same purpose as the dried cow-dung, and as the process was so very simple, there could be no difficulty in preparing it; and that, when once prepared, the butter never "became tainted." Mr. Wood stated that he carried with him to the Cape of Good Hope, some butter prepared in the same way, at Col. Shuner's farm at Hansi, to the westward of Delhi, a year previously, and which was pronounced by the agriculturist, Mr. Duckett, and others, to be superior to the salted butter of the colony; and, for culinary purposes, far superior to lard.—*Tim. Agr.*

TOMATO TART.—A lady sends the editors of the Saturday Courier, the following receipe for making tomato tart;

"Roll out your dough very thin, and place it on the plate in which you intend baking your tart, and slice your tomatoes very thin, spread them over the dough very thinly, take about two tablespoonsfull of brown sugar, and one of ground cinnamon bark, spread the two over the tomatoes, bake it well, and you have a delightful tart.

EXTRACT.—Agriculture is the oldest art of which we have any account. Its inventor was God. By it, nations and communities are kept together. It is the bond of union that unites all society. It is an art more conducive to health, and more intimately allied with religion and morality than any other. It is important then that it should be well understood. Inquiries into its principles will disclose vast riches for the mind to delight in, and vast resources for physical happiness. As nothing comes by chance, as there is a cause, a law for everything that occurs in the universe, the inquiring cultivator of the soil may trace those laws, and ascertain correctly the theory of nature in the production and reproduction of plants; and when he prosecutes these interesting inquiries, he will be making himself a scientific, or *natural* farmer, and enabling himself by the knowledge thus gained, to greatly increase the products of his lands. Every man should certainly be thoroughly acquainted with the fundamental principles of his own business; and if this were the case with our farmers generally, how much of their land now sterile and unproductive, would be prolific in fertility.

CORN MEAL.—On a late visit to a friend, I saw in his barn about two hundred bushels of cobs of corn! How long will it be before we are brought to understand "the nature of things, and perceive their fitness!" here we are, giving our stock clean corn-meal mixed with wheat-bran, and throwing aside the cobs for fuel, or *for nothing*, although they have been found of three or four times the value of bran, for the purpose of mixing with the meal; a perfectly natural mixture, made without extra labor, or expense, adding about one-half to the quantity of our means of feeding, saving the labor of shelling, and the cost of bran! the cob being suitable as food for hogs, as for any other species of stock, and even for poultry. And when the importance of cooking food for our animals is as well understood, and as universally practised, as cooking for ourselves, we shall find that there are many ways in which a farmer can make up for a deficiency in the state of the markets—which all at present so feelingly deplore—without going back to the burning of pine knots to save candles! Suppose each bushel of ground corn-cobs to be worth but 12½ cents, what an addition will they prove to the fodder of our corn crop, and our resources in a long and trying winter! Many farmers grow six or eight hundred bushels of corn, and supposing that the cob is equal in bulk to half that quantity, here are no less than three or four hundred bushels of fodder additional, procured without labor or expense of any kind, save only the very small charge for grinding. Every mill should be furnished with the means of grinding the cob with the corn, and the saving to be derived from feeding these, and the addition to the dung-hill, would form an item in our accounts of considerable moment in these hard times. Is it not a little strange that so small account is taken of the means which are so immediately in our power to add to our resources? —*Farmers' Cab.*

THE STEAM PLOW.—We have received from J. D. Wilkins, Esq., of this parish, a communication giving the plan on which it was proposed to procure a steam plow to work our prairies. We are glad to hear that five or six persons have already subscribed liberally. The following is the proposition on the part of the subscribers:

"We, the subscribers, bind ourselves, our heirs and assigns, to pay to any mechanic, either of America or Europe, who will invent and reduce to successful practice, a steam plow, that will furrow 10 acres in a day, eight inches deep, into 5½ feet beds, at three furrows to the bed, either across or around the field, in the County of Attakapas, La., the sums opposite our names below; as witness our subscriptions, this 7th day of June, 1841."

Mr. Wilkins remarks:

"I have presented this plan to raise a premium to induce some enterprising rational mechanic to introduce a steam plow which would raise the price and promote the settlement of our prairie to a very profitable extent. It costs me a capital of $12,000 in negroes, teams, and plows, to fallow 10 acres of land in a day, five inches deep. With a capital of $3000, including the cost of the steam plow, I could fallow the same land in the day, much deeper. I also conjecture a steam plow can be made to fallow much more than 10 acres in the day. I think a premium of $10,000 would excite and set to work some man gifted with ingenuity, and prudence in the introduction of the wished-for steam plow, for which our level lands are so admirably adapted. I have only presented this subscription to a few of my neighbors, and five have subscribed a thousand dollars. Nearly every one I have mentioned it to are inclined to support the scheme, and I think I can very easily, in my neighborhood, procure subscriptions to the amount of one-third of $10,000, and if you will request Mr. G. L. Fuselier, above Franklin, and Col. Sparks, below, to hand round a subscription paper, they can soon raise their third part of the amount, each; then we will advertise to the world this premium, with the names of the subscribers, and the steam plow, I hope and believe, will be soon forthcoming."—*Franklin (La.) Banner.*

TRANSPLANTING FRUIT TREES.—When trees are removed for the purpose of being transplanted, their roots should, if possible, be fresh and entire. If these precautions have been omitted, their whole bodies and roots must be immersed in fresh water during twenty-four hours; and their tops must be lessened in proportion to the loss their roots have sustained. The sources by which they derive the nourishment which they receive from the earth, being diminished, the whole sap of the tree, and even its vitality would otherwise pass off by transpiration.

October and November, and immediately after the first hard frosts have arrested vegetation, is esteemed the best season of all for transplanting trees. The peach, the plum, the cherry and evergreen trees do especially well, when planted early in autumn. But where circumstances render it necessary, transplanting may be deferred till spring.

When trees are transplanted in autumn, the earth becomes duly consolidated at their roots, and they are ready to vegetate with the first advancement of spring.

The holes for receiving the trees, should be dug from four to six feet in diameter, according to the size of the trees usually transplanted, and eighteen inches deep, the yellow subsoil should be cast out to this depth and replaced at bottom with rich soil intermixed with a portion of manure. The tree should be generally set about two inches deeper than it was before, but not deeper than this; the fibres should spread horizontally in their natural position, and the soil intimately and compactly placed about their roots; manure may be placed above and beneath, and on every side, but ought never to be suffered to come in contact with the roots, as it is liable in this case to corrupt and injure them, finish by treading the ground very hard. When evergreen trees are set, it is generally considered indispensable to pour a few gallons of water around the tree previous to treading hard the earth; finish earthing and tread hard an hour afterwards. This is an excellent and safe mode with regard to any tree.—*Orchardist.*

DOCKING HORSES.—We are sorry to perceive that the barbarous, cruel, and injurious practice of docking and nicking horses is again to be looked upon with favor, after some years of merited disuse. We wish to enter a decided protest against the system, as injurious to the horse and offensive to good taste. A handsome flowing mane and tail constitute the most graceful and useful appendages to this noble animal, and are essential both to his strength and comfort. None but a narrow-minded, ignotent man, would have in the first place ventured on such a violation of vested rights; and none but blockheads or jockeys, destitute of the better human feelings, could have perpetrated or tolerated the innovation. We are not in the habit of indulging in unkind feelings against our fellow men however useless or ridiculous their conduct may be, but when we have seen a docked horse turned out to grass, and obliged, between every mouthful of food, to employ at least as much time in biting off flies, as he uses in eating, a loss of time and labor, that a tail, in its natural state, would have entirely prevented, we have almost wished that the perpetrator of the outrage, in a state of nudity and his hands tied could be placed in some of our swamps, for half an hour, in order to realize the pleasure as unprotected animal must experience when exposed to the assaults of mosquitoes, ox, horse and gad flies.

It is impossible that a docked horse should be as vigorous and strong as he would have been had this operation never been performed. A division of the strong tendons and muscles that have their termination in the tail, must of necessity inflict an irreparable injury. A few years since, an English gentleman had a fine hunting horse, that would carry his rider over a five barred gate with ease; but the tail was not to fasion, it was not carried to suit him, and he had him nicked; the result was that when he got well, he could scarcely carry him over two bars. "Thus" said he "I spoiled a good horse, and no wonder; for the operation weakened his loins, a result that might have been reasonably expected from the severing of two such muscles."

Race horses, we believe are never docked or nicked. Their muscular powers are all wanted, and that too, where nature has placed them. The hair of the tails is prepared, as any one may see in the fine prints that accompany the English sporting journals; but the man who should undertake by the use of the knife, and the division of tendons, to improve nature, would justly be deemed insane. The same argument that prevents the mutilation of the race horse, should prevent that of the carriage or farm horse. The trifling inconvenience the tail occasions when in the harness, should be tolerated for the sake of the greater beauty of the animal. Is the horse so hunglingly made as to render it necessary to cut off a large piece of bone here, or divide a pair of muscles there, to confer symetry or strength? Let who will prefer jockey horses, we shall consider those the best upon which the axe or knife has never passed.—*Cultivator.*

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE.—Wishing to preserve a full record of the proceedings in the formation of this great institution, we insert the following history of the preliminary steps. Want of room was the reason why it did not appear in our last.

ADDRESS TO THE FRIENDS OF THIS MEASURE THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.

Having arrived in Washington city, upon my proposed tour of observation, and having found by personal interview and extensive correspondence, an almost unbounded desire among the Agriculturists of the country that a National Society should be formed at an early day, it was concluded to call a few of the leading friends of the cause together for consultation.

Agreeably to notice given on the morning of the 4th inst. a very respectable meeting of *real friends*, was held in this afternoon in the great entrence hall of the Patent Office: every facility for that purpose having been most cheerfully afforded by the Hon. Henry L. Ellsworth, Commissioner of Patents, of whom the country can truly boast a most decided friend of agricultural improvement.

The following are minutes of the proceedings:

"The meeting was called to order by the Hon. Mr Ellsworth, who stated to the assemblage that Solon Robinson, Esq., of Indiana, was then present—and that as Mr. Robinson was looked upon as the original projector of the measure upon which those present had met to consult, he moved that the meeting be organized by calling Mr. Robinson to the chair. The motion being seconded by Mr. Callen, was put by Mr. Ellsworth, and carried by acclamation. Whereupon Mr. Robinson took the chair, and after offering his thanks to the meeting for the honor conferred upon a stranger in the city of Washington, at the solicitation of several gentlemen present, Mr. Robinson, before taking his seat, briefly stated the object of the present meeting to be a mere primary one, for the purpose of consulting together upon the expediency of calling a general meeting of ALL favorable to the object of organizing a National Society of Agriculture, and should those now here present deem it expedient, to fix upon a time, and adopt some preparatory steps towards forming a constitution. Whereupon

upon J. F. Callan, and John A. Smith, Esqrs. were appointed Secretaries of this meeting.

The following resolution was submitted by Mr. Ellsworth, and after several gentlemen had expressed their views very freely, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the interest of Agriculture imperiously require the co-operation of its friends throughout the Union, to *concentrate* their efforts by the formation of a National Society, for the promotion of National Industry, and "*to elevate the character and standing of the cultivators of American soil.*"

On motion of the Hon. A O. Dayton, it was

Resolved, That [blank] be a committee to prepare a draft of a Constitution for a National Society of Agriculture, to be submitted to a meeting of the friends of such a society, from all parts of the Union, to be held at the city of Washington on the second Wednesday of the ensuing session of Congress.

On the motion of the Hon. T. S. Smith, it was *Resolved*, That the chairman fill the blank in the last resolution with the name of one gentleman from the District of Columbia, and one from each State and Territory.

On motion of Mr. Ellsworth, *Resolved*, That the name of the chairman of this meeting be added to the committee for framing the constitution.

The chairman announced the names of the following gentlemen as the committee:

Hon. Henry L. Ellsworth, District of Columbia; Hon. James M. Garnett, Virginia; Hon. Chilton Allen, Kentucky; Hon. Oliver H. Smith Indiana; Hon. Thomas S. Hind, Illinois; Hon. Lewis F. Linn, Missouri; Hon Francis H. Gordon, Tennessee; M W. Phillips, Esq., Mississippi; Hon Dixon H. Lewis, Alabama; Hon. Alex. Mouton, Louisiana; Hon Wm S. Fulton, Arkansas; Hon. Augustus C. Dodge, Iowa; Gov. James D Doty, Wisconsin, Hon William Woodbridge, Michigan; Wm Neff, Esq, Ohio; Wm. P. Kinzu, Esq., Pennsylvania, Edmund D. Morries, Esq., New Jersey; Dr. James W. Thompson. Delaware, Hon John S. Skinner, Maryland; Hon. Edmund Deberry, North Carolina, Hon. Francis W. Pickens, South Carolina; Hon Wm. C. Dawson, Georgia, Gov. Call, Florida; Caleb N. Bement, Esq, New York; Solomon W. Jewett, Esq, Vermont; Hon. Levi Woodbory, New Hampshire; Hon. George Evans, Maine; B. V. French, Esq., Massachusetts; William C Chapin, Esq, Rhode Island; Hon. Thomas B. Osborn, Connecticut.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

SOLON ROBINSON, *Chairman.*

J. F CALLON, } *Secretaries*
JOHN A. SMITH, }

Washington City, Sept. 4th, 1841.

By this, my friends, you will see that the ball is now fairly in motion. I hope I have been fortunate enough in making a selection upon the spur of the moment, of the gentlemen named as a committee, to secure the services of such as will act promptly for the good of this great cause. I hope they will interchange views with one another, and at the day appointed for the meeting to organize the Society, I hope they will come together, and have the satisfaction of meeting the largest body of the real friends of agricultural improvement ever collected together.

I most earnestly hope that every individual friend of a National Agricultural Society, whom bounteous nature has provided with the means, will attend the first meeting. I hope every Agricultural Society in the Union will send special delegates to the National Society.

I have and shall recommend that the price of membership be fixed very low, as the great and grand object is to enlist a great number in this bond of brotherhood, and by concentrated effort of mind more than with money, to produce a happy effect upon society.

A large meeting at the organization is highly important, to give tone and effect to the measure, and to encourage one another. It is probable also that steps will then be taken to found an institution where a course of scientific and agricultural lectures will be delivered every winter, free to every farmer's son or daughter in the United States.

Many of my friends have expressed a wish that the first meeting might be held in the pleasant autumn. But it is thought by those with whom I have advised here, that the time of a session of Congress would be the most interesting. In fact, every freeman at this country ought to have the opportunity at least once in his life, of visiting the Capitol of his country, at such a time. There is then enough to be seen and learned, sufficient to repay all the trouble and expense of such a visit.

The Patent Office alone is the greatest and best museum of useful curiosities in the Union.

The Hall of Manufactures, 273 feet long, will be filled with ten thousand curious and wonderful things. It is already worthy of great interest, and before next winter will be much more so.

No doubt manufacturers and mechanics will take advantage of the time of the meeting of the Friends of a National Society of Agriculture, to make exhibitions that will be sufficient to induce great attention, and from which a mass of useful information will be gathered.

I cannot but look upon the first meeting of the friends of a National Agricultural Society as an epoch in the history of my country that will long be remembered.

I hope all of my correspondents to whom I have promised information upon this subject, will take this address as particularly addressed to them. And I hope that every paper in the United States that is friendly to that interest which is the base of all others, will make known in its readers what is now doing for the promotion and organization of this Society. I am confident that every agricultural paper will afford the information to its readers, and I hope in particular, that every editor of such papers will attend the first meeting.

From Washington, I shall continue my tour through the Eastern States, and I hope to have a personal interview with many of my agricultural friends.

But above all things, let all remember that *the time*" for them to say that "something can, something *must*, something *shall* be done," to advance the interest of agriculture in the United States.

Be assured that I remain your earnest agricultural friend, SOLON ROBINSON.

Washington City, Sept. 6th, 1841.

MANURE.—Rev. Allen Putnam, the able editor of the New England Farmer, has procured the following testimonials in favor of the value of *pabulum vegetabilium*, yclept manure; and coming as they do from such veritable sources, they are worthy of much consideration.

Western farmers, as well as Eastern, altogether underate the value of the manure-heap.

HERDSMAN'S COMPOUND!

To the whole world he it known:—My ancestors have ever been sickly dwarfs—scarcely growing 15 inches tall—while I and my many brothers and sisters, who have taken freely of Herdsman's Compound, have been healthy and strong, and have reached a stature of more than 30 inches. So astonishing have been the virtues of this remedy for our dwarfishness, that an imperious sense of duty constrains me to make it public.—It is agreeable to the taste and exceedingly nourishing; no danger in taking it at any hour—day or night. I recommend its universal application whenever pigmyism inclines to gain a foothold.

TIMOTHY GRASS.

Meadowlands, July 15, 1841.

AGRICOLA'S CORNGROWER!

Be it known to all lovers of corn cakes, and all producers of that out of which corn cakes and various et ceteras are made, that Mr. Agricola, by plentifully feeding ma with a mixture he has formed in his hog-yard and barn-yard, has caused me to be vigorous, strong, and greeo in June; to grow stout and expand luxuriantly in the warm nights of July; and to yield in autumn a rich profusion of well filled and ripened ears of golden grain. To those who have often seen my sickly complexion, slender and drooping form, and diminutive size, where this congenial food was wanting—to them I say, feed all my kindred and tribe with Agricola's Corngrower! for its virtues you must acknowledge to be extraordinary.—*Verb. sap.*

PHILANDER MAIZE.

Indian Hill, Sept. 21, 1841.

GARDENER'S ROOTPRODUCER!

To whom it may concern.—The undersigned feel bound to inform the public, that Mr. Gardener has furnished them with an article of sustenance whose virtues it is impossible to exaggerate. The complexion, the size, or the health of either of us bears witness to its wonderful efficacy. Invalids and "wee bits o' thinge" our fathers were, while we, having been fed upon the compost which Mr. Gardener manufactures, have become robust and giant like. His is the most on which we *feed*, and grow so big, and we humbly beg all persons that are rearing any of our kith or kin, to supply them plentifully with this mighty renovator and nourisher.

L. O. CARROT,
W. CARROT,
R. SAGA,
M. WURTZEL,
S. BEET,
B. BEET,
E. TURNIP,
D. PARSNIP
S. S. ONION.

Rootplat, Sept. 20, 1841.

Now farmers and gardeners all—the above certificates, coming from veracious ones, who have actually experienced the happy effects of the article, above alluded to, claim your confidence and regard. Though nothing is said of the ingredients composing these famous preparations, yet we may safely infer that all the wonders there described have been wrought by manure,—yes, by *manure*. Therefore, see to it that you collect from swamp and roadside, from garden, and field, and pasture—see to it that you collect every thing that can be easily converted into manure.

A stronger exhortation should be given, had we but power to call up from the "vasty deeps" of the hog yard the cow-yard, the muck hole, and every spot rich with the corruptions and putrefactions of past ages:—Yes, from deeper deeps we would call up those spirits who gave its richest verdure to the lawn—its health and vigor to every flower, and plant, and tree. And when they came, these spirits should find a tongue in every luxuriant blade of grass—in every noble corn stalk—in every promising plant—and these tongues should say aloud—they should utter in unceasing din these words of truth and significancy:—WE, the spirits of the manure heap, we made the verdure and beauty upon plain and hill-side; we made the ample harvests; we gave the husbandman the rich reward of his labors. These are our gifts. Without us, ye tillers of the soil—without us, ye toil in vain. Give us, then, room—give us your care and attention. Do every thing to increase our size and our virtues. Do you the work of making us, and place us where we can act, and then we will make for you flowers, and fruits, and grains.

Thus, had we the power, should these spirits speak to you. But they are beyond our call—therefore fancy for yourselves what they would order; and go and obey their biddings. This is all we have to say before you—nothing more was put into *the pot*.

"IF I UNDERSTOOD FARMING."—There are many persons at the present time, entirely out of business, many smart intelligent men, that have been bankrupt, in consequence of the general derangement of business, who need but a little encouragement to induce them to engage in some branch of agriculture.—How frequently do we hear them remark, "if I only *understood* farming, I would try it." Many look upon farming as something difficult; hard to understand and harder to accomplish. The great secret of success in farming, is, to have your land rich and well tilled; select good seed, put in your crops in season, and *secure* them in season; have good tools to work with, and see that they are taken care of; keep no more stock than you can keep in *good order*, and be careful that those are of a *good breed*, for there is as much difference in the breed of stock, as there is in the natural quality of the soil; and above all, cultivate no more land than you can cultivate in the best manner, for the profits of land will increase in proportion to the amount of labor bestowed upon it. Many think that in order to make a farmer, they must have a great quantity of land; a section at least. They would not think of *commencing* on less than that; but this is an erroneous idea, which some have found out at their cost. Would not a farmer take more *pleasure*, setting aside the profit in raising 100 bushels of corn from one acre of ground, than in *raising* four acres to raise that amount?

"To all such as have half a mind to turn farmers, I say *commence*. Make a beginning, if you cannot get but five acres of land, commence on that; take an Agricultural paper, and avail yourself of the experience of others: be contented to commence on a small scale, be prudent and industrious, and my word for it, you will enjoy more in one year than your all gone lifelong in trade. You will feel an indescribable pleasure, that you have been the immediate instrument of producing, not only the necessaries, but many of the luxuries of life, instead of calculating the profit of wares and merchandize, and the best method of *deceiving* your customers, you will look upon your well stored granary and larder, and bow in humble adoration of that Being who has placed within your means, a competency. Such pursuits are better calculated to make men contented, and consequently, happy. The prospect of speedy gain being small, the mind takes a higher and nobler turn, and especially, is brought to reflect daily, upon the wonders of the *Animal and Vegetable Creation.*—*Western Farmer.*

MARKET.—Chicago, Oct. 25.—What buyers are not on plenty as they were a few weeks since, though all that is offered is bought up from 60 to 65 c s. It may be some lower, but probably not much. Old corn, shelled, is worth from 22 to 28 cts.; new corn on the cur, about 18 cts.; on a 18 to 20 cts; potatoes 18 to 20 cts; eggs 9 to 10 cts.; beef, $2 50 to $3 00 per cwt; pork, $2 25 to $2 75 per cwt.; butter, 10 to 11 cts; salt $1 75.

STOVES FOR SALE.

A RAILWAY COOK STOVE, with Copper Furniture, complete.
A LARGE FRANKLIN STOVE.
A WILSON COOK STOVE.

They have all been used some, and will be sold for Cash or Produce.

J. S. & T. WRIGHT.

AGRICULTURAL REPOSITORY.

THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY has now opened its REPOSITORY at 112 Lake Street, and consignments are solicited of

GRAINS, ROOTS, AND SEEDS of all kinds,
FRUIT TREES AND SHRUBBERY,
OF GARDENING AND FARMING
IMPLEMENTS, AND MACHINES

Either common or patented, and anything useful in AGRICULTURE.

Commissions for the purchase or sale of valuable animals, will receive particular attention.

Communications, *post-paid*, may be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary Un. Agr. Soc.

LUMBER FOR SALE.

AN Assortment of Seasoned Lumber, at market prices. J. S. & T. WRIGHT

FOR SALE, a BERKSHIRE SOW, nearly three years old with some full blood pigs, 8 weeks old; a NEAPOLITAN SOW two years old, and a LEICESTERSHIRE SOW one year old; the two last with pig by NICHOLAS a full blood Berkshire Boar, who is also for sale. J. S. & T. WRIGHT.

I HAVE procured the superior blooded Short-Horn Bull,

BULWER,

Of Dr. Samuel D. Martin, of Clarke County, Kentucky, and will permit him to serve a few Cows at $10 each, at my residence, 12 miles East of Pinkneyville, and 3½ miles from the road leading from Shawneetown to St. Louis.

PEDIGREE OF BULWER.

He was bred by Dr S D Martin, calved 21st of May, 1838, and was got by Rifleman (2532) dam Desdemona 2d,* bred by Col Powel, by Bertram, (1716,) grandam Zulinda bred by Col Powel, by Malcolm, (1190,) g grandam Desdemona, bred by Mr Whitaker, of England, and imported into the United States by Col Powel, by Frederick, (1060); g g grandam Delia, bred by Mr Whitaker, by Cleveland, (146); g g g grandam Red Daisy, † bred by Mr Hustler, by Major, (398); g g g g grandam Strawberry by Windsor, (698); g g g g g grandam Old Daisy, bred by Charles Colling, by Favourite, (252); g g g g g g grandam by Punch, (531); g g g g g g g grandam by Hubback, (319).

* Desdemona 2d, the mother of Bulwer, gave 32 quarts of milk a day. Dr. Martin refused fifteen hundred dollars for Desdemona 2d.

The half of Rifleman, the sire of Bulwer, was sold by Dr Martin to J G Taylor for seven hundred and fifty dollars.

† Red Daisy gave 32 quarts of milk a day—Mr. Hustler refused an offer of four hundred guineas for her.

For further particulars concerning the milking qualities of his ancestry, and extended pedigree of his father Rifleman, and his brother Bertram 4th.

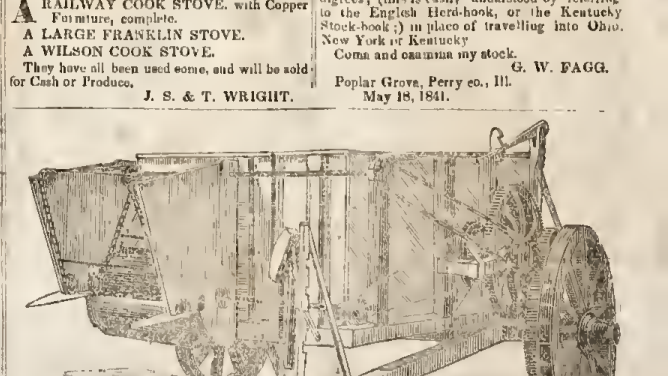
I have also nine thorough bred Cows, all bred by Dr Martin, which I am breeding to Bulwer, and shall have several Bull Calves for sale the fall.

I can supply the farmers with the full blooded Durham stock at all times, as fine as can be bought in the United States, with undoubted pedigrees; (this is easily understood by referring to the English Herd-book, or the Kentucky Stock-book;) in place of travelling into Ohio, New York or Kentucky

Come and examine my stock.

G. W. FAGG.

Poplar Grove, Perry co., Ill.
May 18, 1841.



CHURCHILL & DANFORD'S "IMPROVED MODE OF HARVESTING."

THIS mode of Harvesting consists in threshing the grain while standing, without cutting the straw, and saving the grain in the chaff, no cutting machinery being used.

This improvement has been thoroughly tested during the past harvest; its success has surpassed the hopes of the most sanguine, and will, in a short time, be the only mode of harvesting.

The machinery is simple and durable, and requires but two men and four horses to operate a machine that will harvest, on an average, from ten to fifteen acres per day.

The advantages of this mode of harvesting are, a saving of three-fourths of the usual expense of harvesting and threshing, having the grain ready for immediate marketing, saving the grain free from the dust attached to the butts of the straw, and leaving the straw as a manure on the field in a good condition to be ploughed under.

The arrangement of the machinery is such that it can be used for threshing from the stock, stook, or gavel. Also the gearing may be taken from the carriage and used as a stationary horse power.

Application for Rights or Machines may be made to the proprietors at La Fox P. O., Kane Co., Illinois.

A. CHURCHILL,
E. DANFORD.

The Union Agriculturist

AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

VOL. I. CHICAGO, OCTOBER, 1841. NO. 10.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, EDITED BY THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, THE ORGAN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TERMS.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance.* Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid.* Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1.50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance.* Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

THE PREMIUMS awarded at the late Fair will probably be obtained for delivery in June next Due notice of a meeting will be given, at which they will be delivered.

A PRAIRIE PLOUGH FOR SALE.—The plough of Mr. Ames, which was used at the Fair, has been left at the Repository for sale; price $13.

One of the same pattern presented us, which we spoke of in the last No as being loaned to a friend for further trial, was brought into town by mistake We wish some one would purchase the one for sale, test it thoroughly, and furnish us with the results for publication.

J. S. NORTON, Esq., of Winnebago, came to the Fair of the U. A. S. in superior style. Four fine horses driven by buckskiff, were attached to a large waggon on which was a rack shoeing to good advantage his Irish Grazier boar and sow, "Daniel O'Connell" and "Judith, weighing probably 600 lbs. each. "Uncle," in his dignified gait, and the toss of his head, as he moved along behind, seemed to realise the honor he conferred upon the Society in condescending to attend its Fair. A half a dozen young Graziers in the rear of the rack, grunted out their disquietude at their long journey, and to give the finishing touch to the establishment, a huge pumpkin was strapped on the top of the rack.

B. E. DOUSIN, Esq.—It is but jestice to Mr. Dodson to say, that his opposition to the resolution relative to the Union Agriculturist, that was introduced by Mr. Ellsworth at the late meeting, did not arise from want of interest in the paper, but because he thought it inexpedient to use such strong language.

We learn from the President, James T. Gifford, Esq., that Mr. D. has consented to address the Society at its next meeting, to be holden in Chicago, on the 2d Tuesday in February.

A. CHURCHILL, Esq.—Great were the inquiries of this gentleman at the late Fair, and much disappointment was felt when it was found he was absent. He undoubtedly had a good excuse or he would have been present.

It was expected his harvesting machine would have been there, which many were very desirous of seeing.

SOLON ROBINSON, Esq.—We are happy to see Mr. Robinson has returned safely to the West, after his long and arduous agricultural tour. He brings agricultural presents innumerable: which show the efforts to "elevate the character and standing of the cultivators of American soil" are appreciated by the spirited friends of the same noble enterprise at the East.

The meeting to organise the National Society of Agriculture is to be holden at Washington the 15th December. He will attend it, and hopes there will be others there from the West.

TO THE YOUTH.—It was most encouraging to see at the Fair, so many lads enrolling their names on the books of the Society, or having them enrolled by their fathers. They are the ones, who, a few years hence, will have to do whatever is done to promote the cause of agricultural improvement; and the interest in it thus early created, will be certain to grow with their growth and strengthen with their strength.

Pierre A Barker, Jr., of Aurara, Kane co., probably not over 16 years of age, obtained two prizes *Robt. Naper*, of Naperville, about the same age, took another; and next year there will doubtless be more such competitors.

WISCONSIN TERRITORY.—What societies are organized in this flourishing Territory? There was one commenced in Racine co., and we have heard of none other. In such a population as that of Wisconsin, we should suppose every county would have a flourishing agricultural society. The aid rendered our paper there, is abundant evidence that societies would be well sustained if once organized: and we hope to hear before spring, that one exists in every county. Then let them all be united, by being made auxiliary to a Territorial Society, to be organised the coming winter during the session of the Council, and a concert of action will be produced, that will place the interests of agriculture where it should be—above that of all others in the Territory. If half a dozen in each county would just make a commencement in the work, the way it would go ahead would perfectly astonish them. There is nothing like these farmer's meetings to awaken the spirit of agricultural improvement.

WINNEBAGO CO.—The spirit of agricultural improvement has been awakened in this county to some purpose. The late Fair at Rockford, the first ever held in Northern Illinois, shows what can be accomplished by the perseverance of a few energetic individuals Henceforth exertion in this noble cause will not there be limited to a few; but the hundreds of farmers in Winnebago will delight to do what they can for its furtherance

Not the least encouraging token is the fact that the Secretary of the Agricultural Society in that county, Geo. W. Lee, Esq., has just ordered 24 copies of the Union Agriculturist, awarded by the Society as premiums at its late Fair.

Subscriptions will not stop here. If we mistake not, there are in that county, some warm friends to the paper, who will bestir themselves for a few weeks to come, and send us a goodly number of subscribers.

STEVENSON CO.—This is another county starting in the race of agricultural improvement. We are delighted to hear a few have made a move towards organizing a Society. All that is requisite to success, is a little perseverance. What if it be necessary to hold a few of the first meetings with only a few present? There will be but a few such before the number in attendance will rapidly increase. Every agricultural Society now in existence has been organized in this same manner. Therefore be not discouraged in the outset. Stick to it faithfully for a little while, and success will *certainly* attend your efforts.

Would it not help forward the matter much, besides being no injury to us, if some of our friends there, Messrs. Clark, Kellogg, Sweet and others, would spend a few days in obtaining subscribers to this paper? They would then have an organ through which their plans could be made known. Subscribers from Stevenson are yet very small in number.

GOSHEN, CHOR CO., ILLS.—Mr. Joseph Vial of this place, is of the opinion that "Goshen" butter can as well be manufactured in Illinois as in Orange co., New York. Some have thought good butter could not be made from milk of cows fed on prairie grass; but Mr. V. says it is a mistake; and the butter presented at the Fair from several places, showed the fact could be made if sufficient pains were taken. The settlement in which Mr. V. lives was named Goshen, with the determination to furnish as good butter from it as from any other Goshen; and it is done. Mr. V. has received 18¾ cts per lb for all the butter he has made the past season, while other butter has gone a begging purchasers at six to eight cents. There is an ample profit in taking a little pains in making.

CORN STALK SUGAR.—In connexion with Mr. Gifford's communication, comes quite *apropos* an article upon the same subject in the Farmer's Cabinet, but which we have not room to insert entire Dr. J. W. Thomson, Pres. of the Newcastle co. Agr. Soc. of Delaware, in sending the editors of the Farmer's Cabinet the letter of Mr. Webb which had been laid before that Society, says: "If future experience shall prove to the farmers of the Eastern, Middle and Southern States, that it will be more profitable to them to sell their corn at the market price, rather than convert the stalks into sugar and molasses, may it not be otherwise with the great corn products of the mighty West, where 12½ and 20 cts. per bushel can only be realized, and where maple sugar and molasses can alone be procured, and that perchance at a higher rate and more trouble?"

Though other sweetening than maple sugar and molasses, can be, and is procured by us in the West, yet the manufacture of sugar from corn stalks may be worth the consideration of Western farmers. Our readers will notice Mr. Gifford's experiment, and another year the subject will doubtless be thoroughly tested. If the corn can be topped before the ear is ripened, so that its value for fodder shall be but partially destroyed, and the remaining bute still retain a sufficiency of saccharine to make it an object to express the juice, it will be much better than to adopt the system of cultivation recommended by Mr. Webb. And corn being principally raised for stock-feeding, and fattening hogs; but a small quantity, compared with what is raised, being shipped; the diminution in the value of the corn resulting from Mr. Gifford's process, is not worth minding if sugar can be successfully manufactured from the stalk.

After noticing the difficulties attendant upon first experiments of this kind, scarcely a year having passed since he had first thought of the thing. Mr. Webb gives his method of cultivating the corn.

"The corn is planted in rows 2½ feet apart, and the stalks are left to stand in the row 8 inches one from another; it is then cultivated in the usual manner. Sometime in August, or as soon as the stalk shows a disposition to form grain, the ears must be taken off; this operation must be carefully attended to, as upon it entirely depends success After this there is nothing more to do until the crop is ready to be taken up, which will generally happen in September; the stalks are then cut up at the root, stripped of their leaves, and taken to the mill, where the juice is pressed out between iron rollers, in the same way usually employed with the sugar cane. Lime water about the consistency of thin cream is then mixed with the juice, one spoonful to the gallon, it is left to settle one hour, and then poured into boilers, which are covered until the liquid approaches nearly to the boiling point, when the scum must be taken off. It is then boiled down as rapidly as possible, taking off the scum as it rises. As the juice approaches the state of syrup, it is necessary to slacken the fire to avoid burning. The boiling is generally completed when six quarts are reduced to one; it is then poured into moulders or moulds and set aside to chrystalize. When this process is gone through, the sugar is to be separated from the molasses, and the whole operation is finished The process here detailed gives the quality of sugar you see in the samples. If required, it can be afterwards refined as other sugar. The use of animal charcoal and the employment of steam in the process of evaporation, as is common in the manufacture of beet sugar, would I am confident, produce white sugar at one operation

"From what is known on the subject, I fully believe that an acre of good ground treated as above described, will yield at least 1000 pounds of sugar—probably more The value of the fodder taken from the stalks, and of the stalks themselves after passing through the mill, will be more than an equivalent for the whole expense of cultivation and keeping the ground up. The fodder produced in this way is much superior to that usually made, from its containing a greater quantity of saccharine matter. And the whole business of making sugar from corn comes so favorably with the manufacture from beets, that I cannot but think it will obtain the preference wherever the climate will bring the former plant to perfection Some of the differences may be enumerated as follows. 1st. The corn is clean and agreeable to work with, while the beet is not. 2d The machinery for extracting the juice from beets is not only more costly, but is more liable to get out of repair. 3d The beet juice contains a much greater proportion of foreign and injurious matter, decomposition commences almost immediately after it is pressed out, and it allowed to go on to any extent will entirely defeat the making of sugar. 4th The proportion of saccharine matter contained in equal quantities of corn and beet juice is as 3 to 1 in favor of the former, therefore the same difference will be found in the amount of fuel necessary in evaporation. 5th. Beet sugar when obtained is inferior in quality and loses a larger per cent. in refining. 6th. Corn is a native of our country, perfectly suited to the climate, a true American, and is in fact the finest plant in the world; the author of "Arator" (Col. Fayter of Virginia) used to call it our "meat, meat, and manger." We now add *sugar* to the list of its valuable productions."

The editor of the Cabinet in a note, says he has never seen any sugar manufactured from the beet at all equal to these samples of Mr. W.'s, and the molasses was very nice, containing more than 50 per cent. of sugar.

We shall hope to hear further from Mr. Gifford upon this subject; and if any other readers can aid the investigation by reporting facts and opinions, we shall be very glad to publish them.

PORK FOR SALE.—All our Berkshire and other pigs, noticed in the last No, are not yet disposed of, and those who wish such stock never will have another as good opportunity to purchase as we offer. They are to be sold very soon, for we have not conveniences to winter them.

FRUIT TREES.—At the late Fair, a couple of Hoosiers attended and sold off a large lot of fruit trees, much to the profit of our farmers, as well as to their own. They came from near La Fayette. So few fruit trees are brought into this region for sale, that everything of the kind is eagerly sought for; and those having nurseries would do well to advertise them. Mr Price, of this place, has a few on hand; and Mr. Herkness of Peoria co., our able correspondent upon fruit culture, has a very large quantity In Walworth co., W. T., Mr. Bell has a very fine young nursery near Burlington, and will sell a few trees

THE READING ROOM—The farmers are beginning to find out this place of resort, though but few of those coming to town give us a call. We should be glad to see every subscriber; and if subscribers would request their neighbors who are not subscribers to visit us, we shall be well pleased to see them. "Remember the No." 112 Lake St.

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DAY.—In the Eastern States, the proclamations of the Governors begin to appear, setting apart a day for prayer and thanksgiving to God for his great goodness during the year that is past. We see this yet: Michigan has adopted the same laudable course. None other of the Western States have ever appointed such a day so far as we know.

With us it is a matter of deep regret that there should be no acknowledgment by us as a people—as a State—of our gratitude to the Ruler of the Universe for his innumerable blessings. Have we in the West, not as much to be thankful for as our Eastern friends? Besides, it affords a most excellent opportunity for families and friends to come together; and the pleasures of social intercourse occasioned by this day, are recurred to with delight for succeeding months.

We do hope this time-honored custom will be adopted by Governors of Hoosiers, Suckers, Badgers, and Hawkeyes, and could the same day be set apart in each State, so that it should be made a National thanksgiving day, the interest of it would be much increased.

ONE MORE WORD TO OUR FRIEND.—We cannot let this No go out, without once more urging the importance of increasing the subscription list to the present volume.

Some good friend thinks, if he does not say it—"Why do you keep hammering away at me all the time? Let every farmer do as I do, subscribe and (perhaps) write for it, and the paper will get along fast enough." Very true; but how is "every farmer" to do this, unless those who are acquainted with the paper, take pains—much pains to inform their neighbors of it? Thought now so interested in sustaining this Western paper, you would not have known of it had not some one taken the trouble to inform you of it. And there are probably many in your vicinity who would rejoice in aiding it, and be most efficient supporters, if you would name the paper to them.

Will you not bestir yourself for a few days to come, and send us one, two, three or half a dozen or more subscribers? If each subscriber out of the District of the U. A. S. would send as only one name,—with what is doing within the District, enough lands would be received to warrant an enlargement with the commencement of the next volume We wish in addition to sending a good list of subscribers to this volume, again and friendly would send us word of the probable number of subscribers that may be obtained in their vicinity to the next volume.

It each friend would only exert himself in one half of this paper as he should do, instead of the Society's being unable to add a half to its size, it could be doubled with perfect ease. Shall it not be done?

THE COMMITTEE ON FARMS, should be looking out for those who will make good members of the different Viewing Committees, for the next Fair. All the Viewing Committees will have to be appointed at the meeting to be held in Chicago next February, and it is important that good judges of stock, &c., should be selected. We wish much to see the members of the Committee on Farms, and when any come to Chicago will they please call at the Reading Room.

THE BOARD OF MANAGERS.—It is important that the Board of Managers hold a meeting soon; there being some business of importance for them to transact Notice of a meeting will probably be given in the next No., to be held at Naperville the first Wednesday of December. Should any member be unable to attend at that time, he will please give notice previous to the 20th Nov.

We hope if any of them come to Chicago, they will not fail to call on us at the Reading Room.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT.—The Secretary was not aware that it was his duty to prepare such a report till Wednesday morning, the first day of the Fair, which must be his apology for any deficiencies in it

ERRATA.—In the last No., on the 24 column of the 69th page, in the 21st line, after "recommend," insert "to go," and the sentence will be more complete.

From Bee-Breeding in the West.

THE HONEY BEE; *apis mellifica, of naturalists.*—We fear that our little work will not be so useful without, as with, a short treatise on the natural history of the Bee; we therefore offer the following, not as containing aught that may be new to those who have already studied the subject; but as a carefully prepared sketch, adapted to the wants of those for whom it is written—a comparison of the facts, the experiments and their results, and of the conclusions drawn by the numerous able writers who have already written volumes on this inexhaustible topic. Many of our Western farmers have never read even the most common-place treatise on the subject; and are as ignorant of the nature and habits of the insect, as they are of those of the inhabitants of the moon!

It is for the information of such, that we write. We will begin by giving a familiar sketch of the different kinds of bees contained in the hive; their nature and functions; their division into sexes, or modifications of sexes; their food, secretions, and mode of breathing; their external senses and their instincts. We will then follow them in their different labors, from the time the young swarm has settled in its new home; the structure of their hives; their singular and systematic architecture; the rearing of their progeny, and the issuing forth of new swarms; the massacre of the drones, when no longer necessary for the impregnation of young queens; the fecundation of the eggs, which, until cleared up by the observations of Huber, was involved in the deepest obscurity.

In our sketch of their natural history, we will, of course, give precedence to the Queen, as mother of the hive. To begin with the egg—that from which she is hatched, is precisely similar to those which produce the working bees; the larvæ or warm comes from it in the same manner, and does not differ from that of the worker. But the cells, in which the eggs intended to produce queens are deposited, are larger, being above one inch deep, one third of an inch wide, and their walls, which are formed of wax hardened by a mixture of propolis, are nearly an eighth of an inch thick; they are most commonly built on the edge of some of the shorter combs, but occasionally in the very centre of the hive. They vary in number from three or four, to twelve or fourteen. "Their form is an oblong, resembling that of a pear; their position is always vertical, so that when they arise from amidst other cells, they are placed against the mouths of those cells, and project beyond the common surface of the comb. They are perfectly smooth on the inner surface, while their outer side is covered with a kind of hexagonal net work, as if they were intended for the foundation of regular cells." The eggs being deposited in these cells, are hatched without requiring any particular attention from the bees, except that of keeping up a proper temperature; in which case the larvæ appear in three days, and have the appearance of small white worms without feet, coiled up at the bottom of the cells. From this time the attention of the nursing bees is much more incessantly given to the royal larvæ, than to that of the workers or drones, and they are fed with what appears to be a much more stimulating food than that given to the others; it has not the same sickening taste, but is somewhat acid, and is given in much quantity, that a part always remains in the cell after the queen leaves it. It is then "*forced*," as it were, into a more full and rapid development of all its organs, and in five days from its being hatched, it is ready to open its web preparatory to its transformation, and the bees enclose it by building up a wall at the mouth of its cell. The web is completed in twenty-four hours, and after remaining in a state of inaction for two days and a half, it becomes a pupa. It remains between four and five days in this state, and thus, on the sixteenth day after the egg has been laid, it has produced the perfect insect. When this change is about to take place, the bees gnaw away a part of the wax covering of the cell, till it at last becomes pelluced from its extreme thinness." The queen, although perfectly formed, is not always allowed to leave her prison; but of this we will speak again, and at present suppose that the old queen having gone off with a swarm, the presence of a young one is required, and she is accordingly liberated by the workers, and comes forth to perform the duties of her station. She is larger than any of the other bees; with an abdomen of greater length; with mandibles or teeth of smaller size than those of the workers, though larger than the drones, wings much shorter, extending little, if any, beyond the third ring; proboscis shorter, and her sting short and curved.

The drone, which is admitted to be the male of the species, is characterised by a thicker, fatter body than the worker;—rounder head, a more bluntly terminating abdomen, within which is contained the male organs of generation, and which take the place of a sting, this weapon being denied him. The eggs from which the drones are hatched, are deposited in cells somewhat larger than those appropriated to the production of workers, and are in proportion to those of the latter, as one to thirty. They require about twenty-four days from the laying of the egg till their becoming a perfect insect.

The workers, or as they are more commonly, though somewhat incorrectly called, *neuters*, comprise the third class; are smaller in size than either of those we have just described; probosces or trunk more lengthened; the structure of their legs and thighs peculiar, having a concave or hollow space on the middle joint of their hinder legs, surrounded by a row of hairs. In this "basket," as it has been termed, they carry home the pollen of flowers, usually called *bee bread*; which they first collect by rolling themselves on it in the blossoms, and then brush it off with a small brush or pencil of hairs which, grown on the *tarsi* or last joint of the leg, knead it into a ball and place it in the "basket," where the surrounding hairs retain it in its place. Till within a very few years, the working bees have been considered as *neuters*, or *males*—animals deprived of sex. It is now proved beyond a doubt by the observations and experiments made in various parts of Europe, confirmed by those of M. Huber, of Geneva, that they are in reality *females*, having all the necessary though *undeveloped* organs, which we have seen in those larvæ intended for queens, were *forced* into a perfect or mature state.

The workers in repeated instances, whilst still, to all appearance belonging to that class, and with a productive queen in the hive, have been found to lay fertile eggs; though these eggs, it seems to be generally allowed, by the different observers, produce male or drone bees only.

If it should happen that by any accident they lose their queen, or if she be intentionally removed from the hive, they very soon miss her; an hour or less, the whole hive is in a state of commotion; all work is abandoned, and for four or five hours they give themselves up to confusion and dismay. After looking for their lost queen in all directions, both within and without the hive, and becoming satisfied that they have indeed lost her, tranquility is at once restored—and returning to their labors, they proceed to form a new queen. They select one of the larvæ, not more than three days old, that would, in the ordinary course of nature, have been limited to the form and duties of a worker; and after breaking down two of the adjoining cells, and sacrificing the larvæ contained in them, they form a royal cell. Here they supply the larvæ with the food necessary to promote its growth, and as it increases in size they enlarge its habitation; until, in the space of 10 days, their loss is supplied by the birth of a new queen; when all goes on as before.

Schirach found that if a number of bees be confined with even a single larvæ, which, in the natural course would have become a working bee, they immediately set about forming a Queen of it.

(*To be Continued.*)

SOWING BLUE GRASS SEED.—Dear Sir, According to your request I now give you a few observations upon sowing blue grass (*Poa Pratensis*) seed.

I consider it indispensable that there should be lime in the soil to insure a good growth of blue grass.

The woods should be prepared by thinning, so that the rays of the sun will shine upon every part of the ground some time in the day. This is done by cutting out all the smaller shady trees of least value in it. The leaves, stick and brush, should be next raked up and burned. After the ground is thus prepared, the seed may be sown any time from September to April; February is probably the best month. The land should be marked off (unless you can have a snow which will render the marking unnecessary,) and about 20 pounds of stripped seed distributed as evenly over an acre as it can be done by sowing. It facilitates the distribution to rub the seed between the hands, so as to rub off the down that sticks to them and makes them adhere together.

The blue grass is a very weak tender grass the first year after it comes up, and on that account should not have stock upon it until it gets good hold of the ground. It was formerly my practice to allow no stock in go on it until it seeded the first time. But I now think if the growths should be very luxuriant that it is of service either to cut it or have it grazed off the first years. When sprouts come up they should be cut for a year or two, but if the grass is stocked with sheep they soon destroy all sprouts.

As your call was for information upon sowing blue grass seed, I have said nothing about other seed, but would in every case sow with it other seeds, particularly timothy (Phleum pratense) and orchard grass (Dactylis glomerata.) If the soil is suitable for blue grass, it will soon take possession and expel the others. If it should be determined to mix the seed, a good proportion for the acre, will be 10 pounds of blue grass, four pounds of timothy, and half a bushel of orchard grass seed.

It is of great service in setting grass to have it well trod in, and a very successful way is to feed cattle in the months of January and February, with hay (scattered over the ground) containing the kinds of seed wanted. After the seeds are sown, cattle and hogs may be put upon the ground and fed with hay, stack fodder, or whatever you have for that purpose. Three or four bushels of corn may be sowed, and the hogs may be employed in picking it up. As soon as the seed begins to sprout, all the stock should be taken off, as treading after this would be an injury.

Yours, respectfully,
SAMUEL D. MARTIN.
Colbyville, Ky., Sept. 1841. *Am. Far.*

"THE SCIENCE OF AGRICULTURE."—How strangely must this "figure of speech" sound in the ears of many of our friends who believe that the less of science is mixed up with agriculture the better! But with all due deference to the prejudice of such persons, I must be permitted to believe that the more of true science is blended with any of our pursuits in life, the more rational will be the expectation of success in our undertakings, and the greater will be the reward of our labors in the end. It is indeed strange, that in all other occupations, science should be thought absolutely indispensable towards a successful prosecution of our affairs, while we find it deprecated on all sides the moment a man attempts to call for its aid in the pursuits of agriculture! But it is possible to believe that such a state of things can exist much longer? If it is, then the education which it is become fashionable to extend to all in the same rank, must be unsuitable to the youth who is destined to follow husbandry as the means of living, for much labor has been bestowed, to convince him of the necessity of thought, examination and comparison, in every event of life, and he will have especially to forget the lessons which he has been taught in philosophy, chemistry, and the arts generally, before he can sit down to practice the only art which is to sustain and support all other arts and sciences in the world!

I find in the Penn Sentinel a short article on this subject that is worth preserving in the Cabinet, and therefore copy it for your acceptance.

"The time is not distant, when the farmer's son will be the man amongst the well-educated of his day; for already has the spirit gone abroad, and the leadings of all are beginning to be enlisted in this honorable cause. No longer is the profession viewed as fit only for the poor and ignorant, but it claims that rank to which it is so justly entitled. Men of learning and talents have turned their attention to its investigation, without the least compunction of conscience, for having acted below their dignity; they have learnt that the occupation of the farmer—humble as it may hitherto have been considered—can call into action most of the powers of the mind, whatever may be the amount of his knowledge, and if useful, it can be brought to bear either directly or indirectly: and hence the erroneous opinion, that farmers need not be educated, is fast passing away; and are long, popular sentiments will consign it to the shades of oblivion. No occupation is better calculated to call forth the learning of the man of science, and none, in which a man can engage with more honor, or to which more honor should be attached. We believe, that in time, instead of leaving the poor and the ignorant to fill the profession of agriculture, we shall see young men turning from practical institutions of learning, to that of the PLOUGH, fired with a laudable spirit to gain honor and create wealth from their occupation. When such a state of things shall take place, agriculture will be added as another of the 'learned professions,' considered as honorable as any of them, and prove as profitable. Hills, that are now barren and neglected wastes, will be brought into active and profitable cultivation, waving with bountiful harvests and set thickly with the heavy-eared corn: then gladdening smiles of plenty will cheer our domestic circles, and the bounties of Providence be enjoyed with overflowing and grateful hearts."—*Farmers' Cab.*

THE "BROWN" CORN.—We find the following articles in Gov. Hill's Monthly Visitor, referred to by Col. Walker. Could we have a file of the Visitor from its commencement for reference, we should value it very highly.

"The Brown corn from the Winnipiseogee lake. From a crop of corn which received a second premium of the Strafford Agricultural Society one year ago, having yielded one hundred and seven bushels to the acre, I procured ten bushels of seed corn last winter, which was distributed in various places. Some of this corn suffered from dampness and exposure on its way after it left Concord: in other cases it was soaked either before or after it was put in the ground and did not spring to vegetation. I planted myself on about three acres one bushel of the seed, generally at three kernels in the hill; and there was scarcely a failure. The excellence of this corn consists in its large kernel and full ear, filling after it is shelled nearly an equal space with the corn and cob—its great quantity of ears in proportion to the bulk of stalk, and its early maturity. A portion of my field was in the sand of the river bank where about twenty loads of coarse winter manure to the acre only were spread before planting. here the corn came to maturity earlier, and the crop is less. But on that part of the field manured two seasons in succession, where there was less sand and more strength, the crop of corn is as heavy as it may well be; it ripened so as to be out of danger from frost on the 1st of September, and is nearest to early ripening of any kind of corn within my knowledge to the diminutive Canada corn, which produces less than half in quantity upon the same ground, and which requires so great a stock of patience to gather and husk in quantities. This Brown corn carried South will be quite as sure of an ample space of time to grow in a short season perhaps as any other. We had better pay a four fold price for seed corn raised and brought to us from the distance of one hundred miles North than to have the gift of the same kind of corn brought to us from a climate which either by elevation or distance on the map measures the climate of two degrees South.

"We have heretofore published in the Visitor, from under the hand of Mr Brown himself, the manner in which he has seen these great crops of corn. He does it by putting upon the land double the usual quantity of manure, and by bestowing as much labor upon a single acre as is ordinarily bestowed upon two and three acres. The soil upon these islands—not alluvion, but common rocky land with a hard pan or subsoil, is probably of that kind on which manure and cultivation will have their greatest effect; the same may be said of most of the swelled hill lands in Meredith, Gilmantoe, Barnstead and other towns in Strafford county.

"Mr. Brown's preparation, according to our recollection, is, to take land which had been broken up from the sward and planted once with potatoes, with a first application of some twelve or fifteen loads of coarse manure before planting. After the first crop is taken off, apply twelve or fifteen loads of manure and plough it in deep in the fall. The next spring, plough in at a less depth some fifteen to twenty loads more of fine manure. In this way the whole soil for from six to ten inches deep is pulverised and feels the effect of the manure. In addition to these advantages, Mr. Brown has an excellent kind of corn adapted to a Northern climate, which he has been improving for several years, and which will come to maturity in three months from the time of planting. If we could be sure of a season of four months free from frost, there are other larger kinds of corn—the Dutton twelve and sixteen rowed, or the long eight rowed ear called the Parker corn, for example—that might grow more upon the acre than the Brown corn. But in long prepared as he prepares his, with rows three feet apart, and the hills in the rows placed at the distance of two feet each from the other, and three stalks to the hill—we do not believe there is a kind of corn in the country that will, year in and year out, produce a greater quantity on the same ground. Mr. Brown's kind yields larger ears and more in quantity of corn in proportion to the size of the stalk, than any other kind within our observation.

"But Mr. Brown's crop of one hundred and sixteen bushels to the acre was not the largest crop of corn raised this year in New Hampshire. The corn raised this year in New Hampshire. The corn raised this year in New Hampshire. The

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Union Agriculturist.

BELVIDERE, Oct. 18, 1841.

GREAT YIELD OF CORN.

MR. EDITOR—Last spring at the usual planting season, I selected from the varieties of Indian Corn most approved in this part of the State, the following kinds for seed, viz:—Chinese tree corn, 12 rowed: Yellow dent, 12 rowed; New Jersey, 8 rowed; for the purpose of ascertaining which would yield the best with the same culture. The result with reference to the experiment is of little importance; but the great crop unexpectedly realized, may perhaps be considered worthy of publication in your valuable journal.

The ground was highly manured at an expense of about $3 per acre, lightly ploughed and otherwise prepared in the ordinary manner. The seed was planted in hills foor feet apart; number of kernels to the hill not remembered. The crop is harvested and the result is as follows: Of the Chinese tree corn, 12 rowed, one *hundred forty nine and a half bushels shelled:* The yellow dent, 12 rowed, one *hundred seventy bushels shelled,* to the acre: New Jersey, 8 rowed, *ninety nine and three quarters bushels shelled,* to the acre.

Manure Valuable.—I believe that this is the greatest crop on record; and furnishes a complete refutation of the popular doctrine, that our tillage lands produce equally as well without as with the application of manure. Your readers can judge whether the greatly increased crop above described, would sufficiently compensate for the labor expended in preparing the land in the manner described.

It may well be regretted that every where throughout this region of country such vast heaps of manure are suffered to go to waste when they might be turned to so profitable account.

"Brown" Corn—I planted this season a small patch of the "Srown Corn" so celebrated in New England. It was got in very late and received very little attention while growing.—Not having measured it, I cannot give the number of bushels to the acre; but from appearence of the grain, as well as from the representations of those who have tried it, I am of the opinion that it will one day supersede every other variety. For a minute description of this species and observations on its culture, vide the Farmer's Monthly Visitor, Vol. 1, Nos. 10 and 11. JOEL WALKER.

NOTE.—Were it not that Col Walker's name is sufficient proof to us of the correctness of any statement, we should be slatte publishing such an account as the above. But we believe it as fully as though we had seen the corn harvested and measured. To be sure there was no mistake, he measured it twice.

Are there not others who can also furnish proof of the value of manure? Such a statement as the above, from a practical farmer, is worth a whole page of theorising.

In another column will be found extracts from the Visitor, upon the "Brown" corn, referred to by Col. W. In a P. S, the Col. promises to send us a sample of the variety of corn, for distribution among those farmers who would like to try it.

Why will not the farmers from Boone and the adjoining counties write more for this paper? It is not for want of experience or ability.

For the Union Agriculturist.

NAPERVILLE, Sept. 22, 1841.

SMUT IN WHEAT.

MR. WEIGHT,—Dear Sir—I notice in the June number of your valuable paper, a communication from J. I. Crandal on the subject of Wheat. He says that wheat, either spring or winter, sown in wet weather, is sure to produce smut. I disbelieve it; and I will give you my reasons. In the spring of 1839, I sowed ten acres of wheat. The land was stubble; plowed and sown early. About the time I finished it, we had a heavy rain. I sowed the wheat immediately after the rain, while the land was very wet; in fact it rained when I sowed it.—This wheat I harvested; a fair crop 20 bushels per acre and without the first particle of smut in it.

While I was sowing it one of my neighbors, who subscribes to Mr. Crandal's doctrine, came into the field and told me I should certainly have a large proportion of smut in my wheat, from sowing it in wet weather. I disbelieved it then as I do now; but that circumstance led me to take more particular notice than I should otherwise have done.

One thing more and I have done with my *experience* It is this; that each succeeding year, viz: 1840 and '41, I sowed my spring wheat in dry weather, and when the land was in good order, and each year have had a small proportion of smut in my wheat.

I believe that smut as well as all the other diseases to which wheat is subject, (in common with the other members of the vegetable kingdom) may be accounted for without resorting to so frail a reason as the casual state of the atmosphere. It is a subject that requires research and investigation; and it is more from the wish to draw out an abler writer, than from the expectation of instructing any, that I have been led to make these remarks.

I believe that the cultivation of wheat is an important item in prairie farming; one which deserves, and will continually receive, more attention than it now does. I was *raised* in the wheat growing district of the Empire State; and I am anxious, that my adopted State should be able to compete with her, not only in the quantity but in the quality of her wheat; as she now does in the various other crops to which farmers have turned their attention.

With much respect, I am yours, &c.

A. S. BARNARD.

NOTE.—To such a communication no one could object to putting his proper signature; therefore, Mr. B's request to the contrary notwithstanding, we erase "Sidney" and put in its place what looks much better.

For the Union Agriculturist.

THE CULTIVATION OF FRUIT TREES. No. I.

MR. EDITOR—In compliance with a promise made long ago, I have set myself down to write out a few remarks on the cultivation of the

Apple Tree.—I shall begin with the mode of treating the seeds; and if time and opportunity permit, proceed on to the time when the germ, which in little larger than the point of a pin becomes a wide spreading and beautiful tree, yielding a delicious fruit.

Of the Seeds.—Where seeds are carried any considerable distance, it is common to suffer a loss, sometimes total. Not one tenth of the apple seeds brought from the East and planted in this country, have lived to become scions of one year's growth. The following mode of treatment *has been* successful; and there is probably no good reason why it may not always be so. Take a fresh cheese from the cider press, before it has had time to ferment; fill a wash tub half full of water, and put in as much pomace as will swim: gently stir the pomace with a stick until the seeds which are heaviest have a chance to settle to the bottom: take off the pomace and pour off the water. Repeat the operation until you have the desired quantity of seeds. When the seeds are taken from the water, they should be spread out thin *in the shade* until they are thoroughly seasoned, which will take six to twelve days. When thus dried, they may be put up and kept until the ensuing January; provided they are kept cool and dry. About the middle of January, they should be put in a condition to freeze. This is done by taking a box or trough, which will hold at least eight times the quantity of the seeds to be frozen: mix the seeds with earth; taking care to have at least eight times as much earth as seeds, and the seeds well distributed among the earth. This should be done on a cold winter night, and the box placed where it will freeze the first night and remain frozen until spring. When the weather becomes warm in the spring, be careful to have the box kept out of the sun, in as cool a place as possible. As soon as the ground is clear from frost, and dry enough to plow, they should be planted. They are easily separated from the earth in which they have been frozen, by a seive, which is fine enough to prevent the seeds from passing through it. Take a convenient quantity of the mixed earth and seeds into the seive, & sink it half its depth into a pool of water; shake the seive and occasionally raise it above the water. In this way the earth will soon pass through the seive into the water, leaving the seeds clean; when they should be forthwith planted before they become dry. The land upon which seeds are to be planted should have been cleared of all rubbish and plowed deep the previous fall. This will destroy the cut worm and white grub, which are great enemies of the young apple tree the first season of their growth. The cot worm takes them as soon as they make their appearance; and the white grub feeds upon their roots during the latter part of sommer and sotumn.

Planting.—The best mode of planting is in drills, about four feet apart. The seeds should be planted very shallow, and the ground well pulverized. About eight quarts of clean seed to an acre is enough. The young trees cannot thrive when planted thick. Six inches apart in the row is as near as they will grow well the first season. It is all important that the ground be kept not only clean of weeds but well pulverized.

The slothful man should never plant a nursery. If he does his hopes will end in vexation and disappointment. Constant care and attention are absolutely necessary to insure success. Where young apple trees are properly treated, they will grow from one to four feet high the first year; but if planted thick and indifferently cultivated, they will hardly average the length of a man's finger. Such trees are nearly worthless; not being fit for grafting or inoculating until they are two or three years old; and then they are scrubby things at best. On the contrary a set of young trees which have been rightly planted and cultivated are ready for the grafting knife when one year old; and if sufferred to remain standing until the following July, and August, furnish the best of stocks upon which to inoculate.

The above are all the remarks I have to make upon the cultivation of the apple tree during the first season. If you think the subject worth the attention of your readers, I will furnish you with a chapter on *grafting and budding,* or inoculation; another upon *trimming,* a matter of the first importance to the fruit cultivator; also an essay upon *transplanting* and orchard culture. I do not pretend to any *book learning* in these things; and shall merely give you the results of my own observation and experience.

Youre, &c.

ENSON HARKNESS.

Fruit Farm, Peoria Co. Sept. 1841.

NOTE.—We are greatly obliged to Mr. Harkness for the above excellent communication, and shall be most happy to hear further from him upon fruit culture. We have taken the liberty of heading this "No. 1." in anticipation of quite a number of letters. Our readers will be very glad to hear from one who gives the results of his own expotience in this happy manner.

For the Union Agriculturist.

BLACKBERRY, Kane Co. April 1841.

HOPS.

MR. EDITOR—Having been invited at various times to contribute to the Union Agriculturist; and as you invite communications from all practical farmers, I thought I would devote one spare hour to a communication to your interesting paper.

I consider it highly important to us as farmers, and as a community, to endeavor to cultivate and produce articles, whether of luxury or necessity, which will otherwise be imported from foreign parts; as it will not only account in our favour in the shape of exchange, to the amount of actual cost and cost of transportation, but render us independent of other states and nations in a pecuniary point of view; and must ultimately add to our wealth and resources.

I happened to be in a brewery the other day in this county, and seeing some hops, enquired the price; the cost of which was 75 cents per lb. and imported from Ohio and New-York.—It struck me that great saving might be made by growing them at home. I commenced the cultivation on a small scale this spring; and if they do well, which I have no doubt, I shall cultivate them more extensively another year. I procured my cuttings and plants from the seed saved three or four years ago. I have seen hundreds of acres of hops growing years ago; but not then being in the agricultural business, I was not acquainted with the practical part of their cultivation. McKenzie is the only author I have recourse to as my guide.

The Soil.—He says the hop is planted on various soils, and chiefly in valleys. They are generally of the best quality on strong clay land: the crop however there is very precarious. Those on peat are much more productive; but are liable to be affected by the mould in some seasons, which reduces their value considerably. The best plantations are on a deep loamy soil, where the produce of the latter and the quality of the former are sometimes obtained. Those which are grown on sandy and gravelly lands are seldom remarkable for either great produce or superior quality. The best situation for a plantation, is a southern aspect, well shaded on three sides either by hills or timber.

Manuring.—In the winter the manure should be provided for the hop-ground for the following spring. If the dung be rotten, mix with two or three parts of common earth, and let it incorporate together till there is occasion to use it in making the hop hills; but if it be new dung, then let it be mixed as before till the spring in the next year, for new dung is very injurious to hops. Hops require to be planted in a situation so open, that the air may freely pass between and round them to dry up and dissipate the moisture, which often destroys the middle of large plantations, while the outsides remain unhurt. The hills should be seven or eight feet apart; if the ground be intended to be ploughed with horses between the hills, it will be best to plant them in squares, chequerwize; but if the ground is so small that it may be done with a breast plough the hills should be arranged in a quincunx form—which soever way is made use of, a stake should be stuck down at all the places where the hills are to be made.

The kind of Hops.—As to the kind of hops it is necessary to pay some attention; for if the hop garden be planted with a mixture of several sorts of hops that ripen at several times, it will cause much trouble, and great inconvenience. The two best sorts are the white and grey kind; the latter is a large square hop;—more hardy & bears more abundantly; but ripens later than the former. There is another sort of the white bind which ripens a week or ten days sooner than the former; but this is a tenderer and less plentiful bearer; though it has this advantage, that it comes first to market. If there be a sort of hop that is valued and wanted to be increased, the superfluous binds should be laid down when the hops are tied, cutting off the tops, and burying them in the hill; or when the hops are dressed all the cuttings may be saved; for almost every part will grow and become a good set the next spring.

Planting.—The time for planting hops in Kent, Sussex, and Hertfordshire, England, the greatest hop countries in the world, is either October or March. But I think in Northern Illinois, for the spring, early in April will be soon enough, as they do not start so soon; but the vegetation is more rapid and will come to maturity sooner here than the other side the Atlantic. I think the better time to plant is the spring; and the cuttings can be prepared when the hops are dressed. As to the manner of planting the sets, there should be five good sets to every hill, one in the middle and the rest round about sloping. Let them be pressed close with the hand, and covered with fine earth; a stick should be placed on each side of the hill to secure it.

But to form a new plantation, the best method is to have the cuttings from approved stock, planted out the year before they are wanted, in the hop ground; as the use of plants instead of cuttings, not only gain a year but are more certain to flourish. A small piece of moist land is sufficient to raise plants for many acres and at little expense. If the ground be new, thoroughly subdue it previous to planting.—Work the land with a spade, and set it out into ridges three and a half yards wide and two yards between each. Three rows of plants or as they are termed hills, are made upon each ridge, which should intersect each other. They are generally two yards distant in the rowe; so that about 1300 are the usual number of hills in a statute acre.

Poling.—Small sticks are proper to tie the binds up to, the first year; then small poles for a year or two; the size of which should be gradually increased. Some set two poles to every hill which is proper for ground producing luxuriant growth; but on clay land three poles are set in a triangular form to the hills on the outside rows of each ridge, and only two in the middle row. Many additional poles longer than the rest, catch-poles, are also set up to take the binds as they run beyond the lesser poles. Where the bind is weak, three heads are commonly trained up each pole; though two are better if strong.

Cleaning the ground.—If the ground intended for a new plantation is not clear from couch gress and weeds, a complete fallow is essential, whether it is grass or stubble; and a crop of turnips may be taken to advantage, if the land be proper for their growth, and can be made clean, as the hops will be planted in the spring.

To give a full description of all the various process in prepering the ground, cultivating, picking, drying, bagging, &c., will require a larger space of time and paper than I can spare at this time, but I shall probably transmit you if my other occupations (which are rather numerous) will allow me to do so, a more minute and detailed account of hop culture.

It strikes me, sir, if we could raise our own hops, sugar, silk, tobacco; and enough rape, flax-seed, sun-flower seed, &c. to make oil enough for our use, it will be decidedly better than sending our pork and flour and cash to the East to purchase the same. If there is only enterprize among us here to do this, it will not only add to our wealth and resources, but render us independent of foreign aid.

It has been my practice, Mr. Editor, in communications like this intended for the public eye, to add merely an initial or a nominal or a fictitious signature; but, sir, as your correspondents mostly (many of whom are my valued friends) have plainly put at the bottom of their communications their names, I fearlessly do the same.

"It must be good to see one's name in print.—
A book's a book altho' there's nothing in't."

Byron.

I remain respectfully yours,

WM. B. WEST.

P. S.—You have stated that you are willing, one correspondent should pull to pieces the opinions and arguments of another. This is right—truth is the virtue of the Society; and you *sir,* should and no doubt will consider most essential to all considerations, and it cannot be found only in fair and free discussions. I have a few random shots at a few of your correspondents, on the subjects of the best breed of hogs—the culture of the beet—the making sugar, and the silk business. The sentiments are ready—the leisure hours are only wanted. I shall make use of but gentlemanly and respectful ammunition, and shall attend to it when my other occupations will permit me to do so.

NOTE.—This has been on hand since May last, and has not been inserted because not exactly unobjectionable. We will, however, keep it on hand no longer.

We shall expect Mr. West to furnish subsequent communications upon the hop culture in all its branches. Will he not send a continued series of articles, that they may be short?

Let us have the "random shots" also.

For the Union Agriculturist.

PEKATONIK, May 22, 1841.

BREAKING PRAIRIE.

JNO. S. WRIGHT, Esq.

Dear Sir,—I noticed in the Agriculturist of May, an article from the pen of J. D. Caton, Esq., on the subject of Breaking Prairie, to which a few additional observations might with propriety be appended. I am disposed to dissent, in some degree, from what Mr. Caton says on the subject of *Deep Breaking*. My own prepossessions were at first much in favor of it; but from observation, my ideas have undergone considerable modification on the subject. Any one who will break a piece of prairie in June, and cross-plough it the following spring, will notice that the plough will run with about as much ease, an inch or two *below* the first ploughing, as at the same depth; or, in other words, that the decomposition has extended *below* the breaking; and that the earth will be even mellower there, than that turned over. It will be noticed too, that this will be the case in a better degree, where the breaking has been shoal, than where it has been deep. Consequently, it will be found, that the depth of the breaking has less to do with the decomposition, than the *reason* of doing it.

I am disposed to think the advantages are greatly in favor of light breaking, for the following reasons—(and by light breaking I mean two and a half or three inches)—1st. It requires less team, and can generally be turned better, 2d. It rots better the first season, and greatly increases the first crop; and 3d. The decomposition goes on better below the furl; consequently the land will be in a better state at the end of two or three years than if broken deep at first. The only objection that I know of to shoal breaking is, when a crop is sown on the sod, the difficulty of getting sufficient earth to cover the seed; and this as far as it goes is a real one. But to suppose that the roots of a crop extend only through the breaking, is absurd; observation will convince any one that it is so. To be convinced that turning over the sod is not necessary to decompose it; let any one cover a piece of prairie with shavings, straw, or even with boards, so as to prevent the growth of vegetation for a year, and then dig or plough it. I believe the better way decidedly is to break light, and gradually deepen at subsequent ploughings.

Considerable changes in the manner of breaking have been introduced in this part of the country. It was formerly customary to do it with very large ploughs, cutting from 22 to 28 or 30 inches, drawn by six or eight yoke of cattle. Much of it is now done with ploughs cutting from 12 to 16 inches, drawn by three or four yoke. Such a team, with one man only, will turn over one and a half or two acres per day.

I am aware that these ideas conflict strongly with those of Mr. Caton—but am strongly convinced of their truth. I am willing, however, that others should select their own fashion, after having both sides; or rather, after making trial of both ways.

Yours respectfully,

J. A. WRIGHT.

For the Union Agriculturist.

THE LATE FAIR OF THE U. A. S.

MR. EDITOR,—I did myself the pleasure of attending the fair of the Union Agricultural Society, held at Naperville on the 20th inst.; and instead of its being, as I had anticipated, a very laborious affair, it was by far the most brilliant concern I had ever witnessed West of Chicago. Trials by jury, courts, Tippecanoe songs, and the democracy of Van Buren, have all had their day; but never before has there been such an assemblage of people in this vicinity. And the interest and excitement shown on that occasion, for the improvement of agriculture in all of its various branches, shows conclusively that we live in an age of vast improvements. The human mind, so long fettered and broken by the crudes and bewildered by the shadows of baleful superstition, now stands up erect, in the fullness and majesty of its primeval powers; looking back and gathering all the wisdom and experience of the past; and springing forward with enthusiasm and alacrity to a realization of those mighty and resplendent anticipations which cluster around the bosom of futurity. When such a spirit of improvement and social intercourse is shown by the votaries of any scientific branch, it shows conclusively that the star is in the ascendancy; and will not the spirit of our farmers, shown on that occasion, prove that *their* march is onward? Here at least the farmer is equal to the proud aristocrat, and the entitled nabob. Here, where his fathers fell beneath the fiery hoof of battle, and to the presence of the protecting angel of the republic, his shouts and gratulations may go abroad; and his vows ascend with celerity and power to the Great Architect and Ruler of Heaven and of Earth.

And may we not look forward in the day as fast approaching, when the Union Agricultural Society of Illinois will be one of the brightest stars in the National Society of Agriculture? Surely in point of location and beauty of country we will not acknowledge a second to *any country*; and for intelligent, enterprising farmers, no country surpasses this; and all that is necessary, to make *this* the proudest agricultural community in the world, is an exchange of sentiment. And to see the excitement and interest shown in the competitions of stock at the fair at Naperville, proves that the farmers are awake to the subject. Almost all present became members of the Society. They subscribed for the Union Agriculturist, and hoped by their attendance and interest, that the subject engrossed their attention. And the beauty and great quantity of blooded stock, and every thing connected with the interest of the farmer, awakened them to new exertions; and those who had stock there, which did not receive the notice due by the judges of the Fair, will be induced to try at a subsequent Fair to present their stock for the inspection of a *new set of judges*. The owners of such stock should bear in mind, that the awarding of the premiums was only upon the opinion of *five* out of some 2000 people; and with all due deference and respect to the opinion of those five, I would say, that some of the stock that had very good claims to the favorable notice of the judges, was some in part, and some wholly, neglected. To the owners of such stock I would say, keep yourselves in readiness for the next fair. If your stock was not noticed by the judges, they were by the *people*; and to gain the prize at the second fair that was due you at the first, will be compensation enough for your trouble.

More anon. B.

Geneva, Oct. 28, 1841.

NOTE.—We are quite confident we know who Mr. "B." is; and having conversed with him at the Fair upon the subject matter of his communication, we know no affront is intended to be given the Committee. He only thinks, as did the members of the Committee themselves, that had their duties been less, and had time permitted a closer examination of many fine animals presented which received no premiums, there would have been some complimentary notice taken of them; as the awarding of a diploma, or something of the sort.

It is not best to occupy our columns with such general communications; something more practical is wanted. But this being the only one received about the late Fair, we thought it might as well go in.

For the Union Agriculturist.

ELGIN, Oct. 23, 1841.

SACCHARINE IN CORN STALKS.

Every boy who has cut stalks is aware that a large portion of saccharine is contained in the pith of the corn stalk. This article is beginning to attract considerable attention as a source of sweetening. Two ladies in this place made molasses from the stalk in September, which exceeded in pleasantness any I ever saw made, without clarification. Mr. Child succeeded in making good grained sugar from the corn stalk; and suggests that if the working up of the stalks can be reconciled with the maturity or near maturity of the grain, it will be one of the most valuable materials from which to obtain saccharine. Our large Western Dent Corn, both yellow and white, has a heavy butt below the ear, which is almost useless when dry for stock, and which is very juicy and full of saccharine until dried. I would here query, what becomes of it as the stalk dries? Does it pass off by evaporation? Does it pass into the grain? or does it still remain in the stalk?

In the ripened and dried stalk, it can scarcely be perceived from the taste. In order to be certain whether the corn could be made valuable, and the butts of the stalk still retain its sweetness a sufficient time for working to much extent; I cut a small amount in August last, when it was partly glazed, just below the ear, stacking the tops with ears on. The corn ripened very well—is not as heavy as that remaining on the stalk connected with the root; but the lower part of the stalks with roots in the ground, still retain all the juice and saccharine which they held two months since, notwithstanding the severe frosts. The last hard freezing, however, caused some fermentation in the juice. I should be pleased to have some of your readers give a little attention to this subject.

Yours truly,

JAMES T. GIFFORD.

P. S.—As you gave me an invitation to furnish extracts from my Geneva Address, I here with send in the manuscript. If you deem any parts of it worthy of publication, select for yourself.

NOTE.—We are exceedingly obliged to Mr. Gifford for this excellent *practical* address. Our readers will be favored with extracts from it in the next No.

For the Union Agriculturist.

AVON, March 6, 1841.

PRAIRIE PLOUGHING, AND BREAKING COLTS.

Dear Sir,—In my last, I should have extended my remarks on the subject of ploughing, had I not depended on my friend Richard S. Sargent, of Warrenville, Dupage Co., to give his experience in that branch of farming. As he has not communicated any thing of the kind, I will state from recollection the substance of what he told me.

Deep Ploughing.—In the spring of 1840 he ploughed the most of his corn ground himself thoroughly and deep, with a plough made by a Mr. McKey, living on the East side of the Big Woods, Dupage Co., that would not clog and load with earth as most of our ploughs do. A small piece through the centre of the field was ploughed by a hired man in a very poor manner, or, what is called cut-and-cover. The whole was harrowed, marked out, planted and tended alike; the yield on that part which was well ploughed, doubled that which was poorly ploughed. Mr. Sargent also ploughed one day for his neighbor, with the same plough and in the like good style. Each side was ploughed poorly; the whole was sowed with oats at the same time. Before harvest, the oats on the poor ploughing had fallen to the ground, though of no greater growth than on the ground ploughed by him, and did not yield as much.

The Why.—The roots could not penetrate deep, and by that means could not supply the stock with the necessary food to give it strength to support its own weight and the weight of the head; and the roots that should supply the plant with food were flooded with water at every shower, thus causing the roots to absorb too much water with the food, which, I believe, is the cause of rust in wheat and oats, and I believe that deep ploughing is the surest way to guard against it.

In the Feb. No. I read a very good article on breaking steers, which put me in mind of my boy experience in breaking colts; and I have concluded to tell the boys a story.

Breaking Colts.—My father, while I was young, kept a number of mares for raising colts. Among which were two which we called pretty high strung; and their colts in that respect were generally after the mares. One in particular, after injuring two or three men in the neighborhood by throwing them, he sold to a horse dealer, who took it to Hartford, Con., where it killed one negro and nearly killed another in the same way; both noted for sticking to a horse's back. After these accidents the drover sold the colt to go to the West Indies, where, as he said, there were plenty of negroes to kill. Having another colt of the same stock to break, my father was concluding to take strong measures to effect his object.

I proposed trying more gentle means; told him that he had had his smart riders, that could jump from the ground on to the back of a wild colt without touching a hand, and get thrown as quick. "Give me Dowd," said I, (a young man equally as chimsy as myself, but cautious, cool, and withal kind to all animals,) "and the colt, and we will try what we can do." After laughing at us to his satisfaction, and some importunity on my part, he consented.

We took the colt into a smooth pasture, where it was familiar with every object, and left him around the pasture very gently; then, when standing, Dowd put his left arm over the colt's back, and let it feel some of his weight—stood a few minutes in that position, the colt quite uneasy at first, but soon became pacified by kind treatment. I then took hold of Dowd's uncle when his foot was raised, and assisted him to place himself across the back of the colt. After remaining in that position some five or six minutes, he then gradually put his right leg over and raised in to a perpendicular position.

We let the colt stand thus until it showed a disposition to walk forward. At first it would take but one or two steps, but soon found that it could move with a man on its back. In one hour's time, Dowd rode the colt in the house without difficulty. During the whole time we were careful to treat the colt kindly; to make no quick or sudden motions to frighten it; and by all means not to vex it. This colt, though extremely spirited, proved to be a safe animal to ride.

So much, we said, on our return with the colt, for kind treatment; and so much I have found to be correct since, in breaking colts, steers and heifers. It an animal shows a disposition to fight, it must be conquered; after this is done effectually, kind treatment is the best.

Try it boys; and in every thing that you do strive to show that you have common sense, rather than uncommon strength and agility.

A. CHURCHILL.

NOTE.—Before finding that this communication was on hand unpublished, we had an article inserted on the 77th page, similar in its character. But this is too good to be kept longer from our readers; and we owe them an apology for not having given it in the last No. It was intended, which is the *reason*, though not offered as an *excuse*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The communication of "S." of Delavan, Walworth co., W. T., we find upon perusal very fine, but it is of rather too general a character to be inserted. He says he will furnish descriptions of his mode of cultivating various roots, etc. These we should like much to have. In such communications, our correspondents will remember, conciseness and simplicity of expression are important requisites.

We supposed the communications of Mr. Wight and Churchill, inserted in this No., had been published during our absence, or they would not have been kept this long on hand.

The communications of John Clover upon fencing; Calvin Olds, of Marlboro', Vt., accompanied with an engraving of his corn-planter; and of "D" —(what a signature for such an excellent, practical communication.) are received too late for this No. Also Dr. John Thomas' & E. W. Brewster's.

Why do not the hundreds of our readers, who are availing themselves of the benefits of the writings of others, and yet neglect to repay the obligation by communicating such facts as come within their knowledge—why do they not realise their selfishness and send along a good, plain, commonsense communication? Reader, you *must* write; or by and by a guilty conscience will lash you as with a whip of scorpions.

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

OBTAINING CREAM FROM MILK.—A process of divesting milk of its component portion of cream, to an extent hitherto unattainable, has been effected by Mr. George Carter, of Nottingham Lodge, and is thus detailed by that gentleman, in a paper presented to the Society of Arts:—"A peculiar process of extracting cream from milk, by which new peculiar richness is produced in the cream, has long been known and practised in Devonshire; this produce of the dairies of that country being well known to every one by the name of "clouted," or "cloated cream." As there is no peculiarity in the milk from which this fluid is extracted, it has been frequently a matter of surprise, that the process has not been adopted in other parts of the country. A four-sided vessel is formed of zinc plates, twelve inches long, eight inches wide, and six inches deep, with a false bottom at one half the depth. The only communication with the lower compartment is by the lip, through which it may be filled or emptied. Having first placed at the bottom of the upper compartment, a plate of perforated zinc, the area of which is equal to that of the false bottom, a gallon (or any given quantity) of milk is poured immediately when drawn from the cow, into it, and must remain there, at rest, for twelve hours, an equal quantity of boiling water must then be poured into the lower compartment through the lip; it is then permitted to stand twelve hours more, (i. e., twenty-four hours altogether,) when the cream will be found perfect, and of such consistence that the whole may be lifted all by the finger and thumb. It is, however, more effectually removed, by gently raising the plate of perforated zinc from the bottom, by the ringed handles, by which means the whole of the cream is lifted off in a sheet, without remixing any of it with the milk below. With this apparatus I have instituted a series of experiments; and as a mean of twelve successive ones, I obtained the following results—four gallons of milk treated as above, produced in twenty-four hours, four and a half pints of clotted cream, which, after churning only fifteen minutes, gave forty ounces of butter—four gallons of milk treated in the common mode, in earthenware pans, and standing forty-eight hours, produced four pints of cream, which after churning ninety minutes, gave thirty-six ounces of butter. The increase in the quantity of cream, therefore, is twelve and a half per cent. The experimental farmer will instantly perceive the advantages accruing from its adoption, and probably his attention to the subject may produce greater results. I shall feel richly rewarded if, by exciting an interest on the subject, I can produce any, the slightest improvement in the quantity or mode of producing an article, which may properly be deemed one of the necessaries of life."—*Farm Mag.*

On the subject of cream, the experiment which I send you above may be tried with two tin milk pans, by putting an old horse shoe, or any other convenient thing, into one for the other to set on, then pour in boiling water; next put in the pan that contains the milk—let it stand in cold weather 12 hours—the plan is good for making winter butter, making more and better.

A CHURCHILL.

IMPORTED STOCK.—We are happy to announce the return from England of our friend A. B. Allen, Esq., of Buffalo, who has visited Great Britain upon an agricultural tour, and inspected all the principal herds at the kingdom. Perhaps we have no one who could have done this to better advantage. Mr. Allen has long been devoted to the breeding of cattle, and has raised some beautiful Durhams and pigs, such as we have never seen surpassed. He now brings home from his excursion a large collection of South Downs, Yorks, Kenilworth, and Berkshire pigs, Shepherds' dogs, Dorking fowls, English pheasants, etc. He has under his care valuable sheep worth $500 a head, for Hon. Mr. Stevenson, Bishop Meade, of Virginia, and F. Rotch, Esq., of Butternuts, N. Y. Mr. Rotch's lamb is a South Down, only six months old, and weighs one hundred and fifty two pounds. It is indeed an acquisition to our State, and we doubt not will prove a source of profit to the importer. Mr. Allen came a passenger in the Hendrick Hudson, Capt Morgan. The last named gentleman brought out a very fine Durham cow for his own farm on the Connecticut. We also learn that an extended notice of this stock will appear from Mr. Allen's own pen in one of the agricultural periodicals at an early day.—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

WINTER WHEAT.—The Alton Telegraph says the farmers in Macoupin, Madison, Jersey, Greene, Bond and Montgomery counties, have put in more wheat this fall than usual. Such we are told is the case in the Northern part of Illinois.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST.

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

OCTOBER, 1841.

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Jno. S. Wright, Cook " Rec Sec.
Do. do. " Cor Sec.

The late Fair of the Union Agricultural Society was the grandest display this portion of Illinois has ever seen. Not having had the pleasure of attending other Fairs in the West, it is impossible to make just comparisons. But if the spirit of agricultural improvement be awakened in other portions of the mighty West, as it is in this region, a glorious day dawns upon us. The farmers themselves begin to realize the superior importance of their interests over all others; and being in such an immense majority over all other classes, it is only necessary to manifest their just appreciation of their rights and superiority, and their determination to maintain them; and not only will their claims be acknowledged, but all of every profession who have the good of their country at heart, will delight to join in elevating so important an interest.

Not less than *two thousand* were present during both days, and some estimate the number as high as three thousand. Let the body of farmers be thearily engaged and united in their Society, and what can they not accomplish! Then to this number add the thousands within this district who were absent, but who may be expected to join the cause as it advances, and so it not evident that the henceforth our march is onward with giant strides."

The report of the examination of the Committee on Fairs, shows the exhibition of stock to have been very respectable for the first effort: and another year there will nor be as many to say—"If I had only known there was going to be so much of a show I would have brought" such an animal; or "I have got one at home that will beat this all hollow." Though so many fine animals were kept back enough were exhibited to show the farmers are much engaged in the improvement of stock.

In the ensuing number we shall expect to give the proceedings of the other Western Societies, many of which have not yet reached us; and distant friends will learn thereby, that something is being done in the "far West" for the promotion of the cause of agriculture.

MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE U. A. S.

Immediately after the adjournment of the Society, the Trustees elect held a meeting, Jas. M. Gifford V. Pres. in the Chair. It was resolved to elect the officers of the Society for the ensuing year; and the Trustees were required to prepare their ballots for President.

James T Gifford having received a majority of the votes, it was moved by Wm. Smith, that he be declared unanimously elected President. The question was put by the Secretary and adopted.

Upon counting the votes for Vice-Presidents, it was found Lewis Ellsworth, of Du Page co., Theron D. Brewster, of La Salle co., William Noble Davis, of Kendall, and Wm. Smith, of Will, were elected. Seth Washburn, of Lake co., holds over his office as V. P. another year.

Edward W. Brewster, of Kane co., was elected Treasurer, and John S Wright of Cook, Corresponding and Recording Secretary.

The following persons were nominated and elected the Board of Managers for the ensuing year: Lewis Ellsworth, J. W. Walker and Saml. Anderson, of Du Page co., and Alex P Hubbard, and Wm. B. West, of Kane.

Upon motion of Levi Hills, the following alterations were made in the 10th art of the by-laws: the last clause of the 2nd sect. to be stricken out, and the following inserted as the 3rd sect.

"The Trustees shall appoint Viewing Committees of three members each, which Committees shall be called the Committee on Horses, the Committee on Cattle, &c. These Committees shall examine the objects presented for premiums in their several departments; shall determine to whom the premiums shall be awarded; and report the same to the Committee on Fairs."

The succeeding sections to be numbered 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th. The first "the" in the 4th sect. to be altered to "any"; near the end of the same section, after "the Committee", "on Fairs" to be inserted; and the succeeding "them" to be altered to "its". In sect. 5, the first "their" to be altered to "the"; and after "proceedings", to insert "of the Committee on Fairs and of the Viewing Committees". In the 7th sect, before the first "Committee", to insert "Viewing".

It was resolved that at the next meeting the Viewing Committees shall be appointed, and other arrangements made for the next Fair.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to meet at Chicago, on the 2nd Tuesday in February next.

Jno. S Wright, *Rec Sec.*

Premiums to be Increased in Value.—The adoption of Col Smith's resolution relative to the union of the Western Societies in offering premiums upon particular subjects of general interest, we look upon as one of the most important transactions at the late meeting. The resolution was as follows:

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to correspond with the different agricultural Societies of the West, inquiring upon what subjects each one proposes to offer premiums, with a view of concentrating the prizes upon such things as the best plough, the best field of hemp, and such other subjects as may be of interest to the West in general.

Our motto "*In Union is Strength*" never was more applicable to any movement than to this. There are some operations in husbandry in the investigation of which, all parts of the West are equally interested; there are implements that it is of the first importance to *every prairie farmer*, to have improved; and an improvement in them made in Wabash co., may be of as much benefit to the farmers of the North as to those of the South.

These subjects will be investigated and the implements improved, if, by offering sufficient premiums, the attention of ingenious men can be turned to consider upon them. But our societies being all recently organized, and deficient in funds, no single one can afford to offer premiums large enough to attract any very great attention. Therefore, what cannot be done single-handed, must be effected by union.

If the societies were to unite their several premiums for a plough, so that a gold or silver plough in unanimo, worth a hundred dollars or more, should be offered for that which scoured best in our prairie soil, it would attract the attention of ingenious mechanics, and greatly increase the probability of success. This is the implement first in importance to the farmer; and the funds of agricultural societies cannot be better employed than in offering premiums for improvements in it.

We would propose, that for the implement, as the trial of it would excite much interest, the several Societies of the West should agree how large a premium they would give, and send the letters to some individual to be designated, and on a given day let these letters be opened; and the Society which offers the greatest premium, let that be the one at whose Fair the trial shall take place.

On other subjects, as for instance the best specimen of a hedge, the best specimen of hemp; the best of tobacco, flax, etc; the awarding of premiums on these, could be given to different societies. Individuals competing need not be required to attend in person, but they might send in statements sworn to before a justice of the peace. They should also be required to furnish written statements of their modes of culture for publication.

We would request an expression of opinion upon this subject; and plans of operation to be proposed. There is no time to be lost.

The Volunteer.—In the proceedings of the U. A. S. at the Fair, will be found a list of those who volunteered their services to procure subscribers to the paper and to the Capital Stock. What will amount to about 100 days work was there promised; and if the duties be as faithfully performed as they intended they should be at the time their services were proferred, the effects of the labors for this 30 days will be felt for years to come. Let the farmers within the district of the Society, be only induced to take the paper, and it will not be long before funds will be furnished sufficient to carry forward the operations as rapidly as could be desired. There is many a farmer who has been intending for months to subscribe; and it is only necessary for some friend to present the prospectus, and he would sign at once. Perhaps many have been before promised you to subscribe, who expect you at this time to ask them. Now, too, is the most favorable time to induce those to put down their names who are undecided.

If any of the volunteers have neglected to call upon a single individual within their influence, will they not see him at once? Do not fail in the least in the performance of these important services. Unless each one attend faithfully to his respective district, the necessary exertions in it will not be made.

Please send in your list soon. Remember the time expires the 20th Nov; and in the December No. the results of the efforts during this 30 days are to be published.

I will not friends out of the district unless the excellent example of these volunteers, and devote one, two, three or more days, as they may be able to spare time, to the procuring of subscribers to this paper? If only those who have written us expressing their deep interest in the success of the paper, would come forward to us and in this pressing time of need, there would be no doubt of the enlargement of the paper with the commencement of another volume. Is it too much to expect from them a little—or even *considerable*—extra exertion at this important crisis? Do let us hear from many of you previous to the 1st December, that the results of your labors may be known.

Agriculture beginning to be appreciated.—No better evidence is wanted of the growing interest in agriculture throughout our country, than the great increase within a few years of papers devoted exclusively to it and its kindred sciences, and the change that is being wrought in the country newspapers. A few years since, nearly all of a paper not used in giving the current news of the day, was given to some foolish romance; but now it is, at least in a good degree, filled with valuable extracts from agricultural publications.

And the agricultural press do not regret to see this change. They have no selfish fears that by the newspapers furnishing this kind of reading, their circulation is to be diminished. No such thing. The more a farmer reads of such matter, the more he will want to read, till from reading extracts, he will conclude to take the work itself. The more that is copied the better; and all the favors any agricultural paper asks, is that due credit be given for what is extracted.

☞ This No. has been unavoidably delayed, by the sickness of one of the journeymen at work on it, and the necessary absence for a week of another.

The 11th No. we shall have out by the 20th of Nov.; and after that the paper will again be published regularly on the 1st of each month.

"I got no premium at the Fair."—Very few may say this; for however unjustly they may consider the awards of the Committee; they dislike to talk much concerning it; but as the saying is, "they keep up a terrible thunking about it." Now, friend, what we would ask of you as an act of justice, or as a great favor, (which you please,) is, that you should not curse the Society and all concerned in it, merely on account of the decision of five members. We know of no instance where injustice has been done any one; but the Committee lay no claims to infallibility; and it is *impossible* that in a single instance their decision might have been different, if they had had time sufficient to make a closer examination. This single instance, reader, might have been in your case; we would therefore ask of you to consider the neglect or injustice that may have been shown you, a necessary consequence of the hurry and confusion attendant upon the first Fair, and the inexperience of the managers. Another year so many duties will not be put on a single committee.

Do not let the disappointment diminish in the least, your interest in the Society, or your exertions in its behalf; but work harder than ever for its improvement, realising as necessary as you do; and "hope for better luck next time."

These remarks may apply to members of other Societies besides those of the Union Agricultural Society.

Farm-House Architecture.—It is but seldom a farmer comes to the West with means sufficient to erect immediately such a building as he intends shall be, ultimately his permanent dwelling place. It is therefore important to have a definite plan agreed upon in the outset; parts of which can be built at different periods, as the means of the farmer increase; and which, when completed, will form a commodious, convenient, and tasty building.

Such a plan we think was furnished in the last No; any part of which can be built first. The piazza, though adding so much to the beauty of the house, many would prefer to leave off, as being too expensive. Some would prefer fire-places to stoves. The change can be made at pleasure. If more room be wanted, it is easily obtained by building on a wing to the left, instead of the piazza, similar to the one on the right. Closets and such conveniences are quite abundant, and if more be wanted they can be easily added. A few of the plans and descriptions have been struck off on a letter sheet, and can be obtained at the Repository.

Whenever a mechanic, whose estimates can be relied upon, can find time to give a detailed bill of the cost of such a house, it shall be furnished. As yet we have found no one who could furnish the estimated expense of Mr Robinson's plan given in the June No.

It is just as easy, and but little more expensive, to build with some regard to taste, as to go on putting up additions in a careless, helter-skelter manner; and the beauty of our country being so dependent upon good judgment and taste in erecting dwellings, the most careful attention should be bestowed upon the plans first adopted.

Our Surplus Pork.—The price of pork this fall, is evidently to be very low, much lower than farmers can afford to raise it. Packers will perhaps pay $2,25 or $2,50 per cwt for the very largest, weighing 350 to 400 lbs and over, and prices will range from that down to $1,50. This we should judge to be about the price throughout the West.

Now, is it best for farmers to sell at these rates? In general, we would advise the farmer to sell off all his surplus at the fall. Take ten cents together, and he will make more money by so doing than by holding on for higher prices. All the wastage is saved; he has his money on hand for use, knows exactly what he can spend for improvements the coming year; and during the winter can be making his arrangements accordingly. And to those living near a market, who can sell their surplus grain for a fair price, we would a all say—Sell your pork. But those living a considerable distance from market, we would advise to make an estimate: whether they have corn enough to winter their hogs—what nett profit could be made on the corn, over and above the expenses of getting it to market—whether the increase in the pork by the next fall, at *present prices*, will equal what could be got for the corn if sold now—if so, we would advise them to hold on, for prices cannot be much lower than now. But there is a large amount of last year's pork still on hand, and there will be so many holding on for higher prices another year, that unless there be some extraordinary cause to raise the price, it will not be much higher then than now.

To Agents.—In the December No. we shall publish a list of the Post Offices to which our paper is sent, with the number of subscribers at each office.

It being generally conceded that the farmers of the West are able, and that they *should* sustain a Western agricultural paper, it is but just to those who are so strongly exerting themselves to obtain subscribers and correspondents, that they should be known; that they, at least, should not be blamed if the paper be not improved as rapidly as the growing interests of the West require. If there be any who are intending to obtain subscribers, we should be glad to receive their names before that time.

A Worthy Example.—*Mr. Rice Fay* of Kane co., who took the premium for the best cheese, says he intends to subscribe for as many shares of the Capital Stock, as the premium awarded him, will pay the first instalment on.

Mr. Joseph Vial of Cook co., who took premiums for the best butter and for the 2nd best boar, says he will do the same.

Any others, gentlemen?

Analyses of Soils.—Dr. Meacham has shown us a letter received from Dr. Jackson, of Mass., the celebrated geologist, who offers to analyse four specimens of our prairie soils free of expense. For analysing more specimens he would wish to be paid enough to cover the expense. Mr. Gifford, of Elgin, has sent two specimens, one of bottom-land, another of the upland prairie; and Mr. Jas. Long, of Monroe, Cook co., has sent four specimens—one from bottom-land, one from the first-ridge above, another of "black-muck", and another of sub-soil.

They will be forwarded to Dr. Jackson immediately; and the result of the analyses will be furnished us for publication.

To Remove Large Trees.—With many farmers it would be an object to transplant trees of considerable size, so that a shade would be sooner obtained. Now is the time to prepare the work. Begin by digging a trench around the tree to be removed, from four to eight feet from the trunk, according to the size of the tree, cutting off the roots as you come to them. Dig deep enough to get at all the main roots. It would be well to fill the trench with straw or litter to prevent its freezing below and around it. Then dig a hole where you wish the tree to stand when removed, of the necessary size to admit it with all the earth left around it. When the ground is thoroughly frozen, you can take out the straw from the trench, and easily insert levers under one side and tip it over. Trim out the top to your taste, roll the roots and frozen earth on to a drag; put it into the hole prepared for it; fill up the cavities around with manure or anything, and in the Spring it will start out as vigorously as though it had never been removed.

Are Roots or Corn *most profitable to the Western Farmer*?—In the Eastern and Middle States, the farmers generally cultivate roots for wintering their stock upon, but it would seem to be doubtful whether that be the best course here in the West. Some roots are serviceable and no farmer should be without more or less; but where corn can be raised at an expense of twelve and a half cents a bushel, or even less, which our Western Farmers say can be done, it would seem that should be made the principal food for stock.

This is a question, like all others in agriculture, that must be settled by actual experiments, and it being one of much importance, we would strongly urge our farmers to write about it.

Dr. Nott's Address.—The address of Dr. Nott at Syracuse, at the Fair of the New York State Agricultural Society, was one of the most able—in fact *the most* able—we ever heard. The principal theme was, the Nobility of Labor; and if the Dr. did not make those miserable nonentities in the shape of men, who profess to look down with contempt upon the laboring man—it he did not make them about as small as "the tip end of nothin' whittled down," we are no judge. The address will of course be published, and we shall hope to have a copy from which to extract.

A substantial Embankment and Ditch.—Jason Marsh, Esq., of Rockford, informs us he has been enclosing his land by an embankment 8½ feet in diameter at the base and 2 at the top, and about 4 feet high. On either side is a ditch 2½ fee across. He has made a mile and three quarters of this kind of fencing at an expense of sixty-nine cents per rod.

This we should suppose to be large enough to be permanent and resist drought. It could be started over by sowing grass seed upon it, (the Kentucky blue-grass, or the orchard grass, would probably be the best;) and then on the top, a hedge row could be planted that would be out of the reach of cattle.

How beautiful would our prairies be, divided by such fences!

Sheep and Wool Business.—Mr. Cummings, a gentleman recently from Vermont, where they know something about wool-growing, told us a few days since, he had been travelling in the West for three weeks in search of a location; and that he had about concluded to locate in McHenry co., and go extensively into the raising of sheep—that he thought more money could be made out of it than out of any other business. He wanted to get on a lot of sheep this fall, and wished to know where to go for them. We advised him by all means to go to Ohio and we have since learned that sheep can be bought there to much better advantage than we supposed.

Take a flock together, wethers and ewes, and they can be got for from 50 to 75 cents; and ewes alone for from 75 cents to one dollar. The wethers had best be left. Now cannot farmers in a settlement unite their purses, and send off some good judges to bring in flocks this fall? There is no fear of there being too much wool raised; and can any thing be taken hold of that promises more certain success and profit?

Indiana and Illinois.—Mr Stuart, the Editor of the Michigan City Gazette, gives a very interesting account of the Fair of the U. A. S., which he attended, and says: "The challenge has gone forth from the farmers of Northern Illinois to those of Northern Indiana, daring them to a trial of skill. And shall we not meet them, and show them that we are now, as we ever have been, the most successful tillers of the soil in the West. Let us be up and doing."

So the Hoosiers and Suckers are to have it, hot and tight. Go it; no warfare can be more profitable.

Friend Stuart has not sent us the Gazette containing the proceedings of the Laporte co. Fair. We hoped to have given them in this No. The other Nos. have been regularly received.

How to manage a Horse.—The following instructions from that splendid paper, "The Spirit of the Times," are worth the subscription price many times over. This is the best article of the kind we have ever seen, and it is to be hoped the advice will be remembered and practised upon by every reader owning a horse.

My secret for taming vicious horses is gentleness and patience, which removes fear, and gives the animal confidence in man. Rubbing a horse on the face will cause him to present his head to you, and talking kindly to him will attract his attention. After having cleared the stable or paddock of every thing (dogs, chickens, &c.) that will lead in any way to frighten the horse, drive him as gently as possible into a corner and approach him by degrees, that he may see there is no cause of alarm. You must now rub his face gently downwards, (not across nor against the grain of the hair,) and when he becomes reconciled to that, as you will perceive by his eye and countenance, rub his neck and back till you come to his tail, repeating the operation several times till he will permit you to handle his tail freely. You may now lead him out, and call upon him constantly and in a steady tone, to "come along;" (whispering the word to some horses is better than to speak loud,) and, in about ten minutes or less, he will follow you about quite tame and gentle.

In breaking a horse to harness or saddle you must be very gentle with him. For the former, you may commence by throwing a rope over the back, and letting it hang loose on both sides; then lead him about, caressing him as above until he becomes satisfied that they will not hurt him; then put on the harness and pull gently on the traces. In a short time, by this kind treatment, he will be prepared to work.

In breaking for the saddle you may begin by showing him the blanket, rubbing him with it, and throwing it on his back. In a short time you may lay the saddle on; and after fondling him for a few minutes, you may fasten it and ride him with perfect safety. It is better for one person to stand by his head at first and keep him quiet, and then to lead him along until all danger is over, if he is dangerous you may exercise him for some time, by leading him, and leaving him, as he becomes more and more gentle in working. You can then manage him with more safety. It is better to work a horse to make him very gentle; but if this cannot be well done I would recommend the use of bit and harness, that he may learn to be governed by the bridle. Be careful not to get his mouth sore. Put on at first a loose harness, and let it remain on for some time; if the harness is tight, it will make an unbroken horse sweat and faint. You may, in the case of a very vicious horse, side line him. In a little time he will pass a carriage without shying, and will not caper in gear or under the saddle.

If a horse lies down and will not get up, drive a stake in the ground and fasten him down for ten or twelve hours; then loosen him, work him for about an hour, water and feed him, and he will "know better next time."

To prepare a horse for hunting, snap a few percussion caps about him, before and behind. By degrees increase the loudness of the report, and in half an hour you can fire a cannon near him.

A *vicious cow* may be cured by the same treatment.

To make a horse follow you.—You may make any man's horse follow you in ten minutes, or sometimes less. Go to the horse, rub his face, jaw and chin, leading him about, still saying to him "come along." A constant tone is necessary. By taking him away from person and horses, tapost rubbing, leading, and stopping. Sometimes turn him around all ways, and fascinate his attention by saying "come along," put your arms around his neck, whispering in his ear "come along." I suppose in some horses it is important to whisper to them, as it hides the secret, and gentles the horse. You may use any word you please, but be constant in your tone of voice. The same will call all horses to follow. If a horse has an injury in the face, you had better put off taming him till he is well.

To manage a contrary race horse.—If he stops or sulks, go to him, and speak kindly to him. Rub him down the face, using the bridle no more than you can help; turn him to the right or left, until he starts—as he will be most apt to start at the second or third motion; then continue rubbing in the face, talking to him as in other cases, keeping quiet by loading him about. Continue to rub him in the face, and use the same tone of voice.

To prevent a horse or mule from breaking his halter.—First, strong halter him with one that will not draw, as that will make his jaw sore; then fasten him to something which he cannot pull loose, and let him pull until he is unwilling to pull any more. You then get on and ride him a mile or two, and tie him so again, and let him stand quiet. By repeating this for a while, in regular use, you may turn him loose any where, and he will be safe. By the use of a good halter, a horse may be turned loose in a prairie to feed all night, and cannot be "stompeded" or run off by wild horses; hundreds have thus been lost. Those who have no hollers may with ease blindfold a horse, and then he will not run.

To teach a horse to lie down.—First, with one soft handkerchief or cloth, tie up one fore leg; then with a stick top him on the other, and say "kneel" sometimes by rubbing him on the head, and patting him on the leg, you will induce him to lie down. It appears all horses are inclined to obey you, and will do so when you teach them that you will not hurt them. You will have to employ some time and attention, you had better take him by himself. Repeat the trial three or four times and you will be successful.

To accustom a horse to the use of a gun, umbrella, &c.—Commence showing your friendship by rubbing the horses face with your hand; then snap and explode percussion caps with a pistol. Let the horse frequently smell the powder and smoke. Then you will fire small reports, until you shall see fear removed: then overhead, and behind the horse, until all is free. If you have a very wild horse, place him in a stall, or small pen, so as to have him safe; then fire a gun all around him, and go often up to him, speak to him, and rub him in the face, and then fire the gun again, until he is free from starting. To make a horse used to an umbrella, walk before him, raising it up and shutting it again. Let him smell it and rub it near his head. Then go go him, gently raise it, and ride him along until the fear is over. It is, in all cases, better to take the horse to some new place away from home, for if you go to the place where he has been spoiled, you will find he is apt to prove unkinder there than any where else. Sometimes horses will remember for five years places and habits, both good and bad. You must rub your horse on both sides; for he may be gentle on one side, and not on the other.

How to manage a kicking horse.—First make a stall or pen, for your horse, in which he cannot turn round, and with slats, through which you can put your hand to rub him. Thus commence by rubbing him in the face, and all over, two or three times, raising his tail gently, three or four times; then touch one of his fore legs, and say "foot," "foot," until he shows willingness to raise his foot. Raise the foot up, and put it down some three or four times; then go all round, until all fear is removed. All you wish a horse to do ought to be done three or four times, repeated two or three days in succession.

How to manage a Cow.—Tie her to some place, so that you can rub her all over; then salt her from your hand, feed her from your hand, on half feed, and in three days you may do as you please with her. Rub her near the root of the tail, as that has a good effect.

Something like "animal magnetism."—Take a chicken or a turkey, and lay it on its back, then with a piece of chalk, draw your hand along before its face to the length of your arm, and it will lie still for some time. Then stand the chicken or turkey on its feet, and draw your hand down its bill, or draw a mark round it and it will remain in this "magic ring" for some time.

In breaking a shy or skittish horse never strike him for swerving; but if he is frightened, be gentle. Get down, rub him in his face, lead him to the cause of alarm, thenes back where you got off, and then ride him back again to the object. Repeat this in the force of his habit, and he will be submissive. If an old horse you may mend his habits. In training horses to go over bridges, it is a good plan to lead them over some three or four bridges.

To make a horse stand still while you mount. Get on and dismount four or five times before you move him out of his tracks, and by repeating this any horse will stand still.

In conclusion, I would advise all breaders, to be kind and gentle to their foals, and by so doing I will venture to say they will seldom have vicious horses to tame.

I am, sir, your ob't. serv't. D. O.

Bee-Hunting is a favorite pursuit with many of our woodsmen; and in the prairie regions, is quite a profitable one. Those who follow it, do so in several different ways, and at various seasons of the year. In early spring, on days when the sun shines out bright and warm, the bees are induced to venture forth from their winter quarters; but no sooner have they left the tree, than they become chilled and drop to the ground. At this time, the hunters are on the search and discover either the dead bees, or the excrement they have dropped on the snow, and are thus guided to the spot. In April and May, they are found in the sugar camps, or on the maple stumps in a clearing, and may than be watched and their course found: so soon as that is well ascertained, it may be followed without hesitation, as they fly home, when loaded, in a direct straight line. At this season of the year, the woods are so still, so few sounds to be heard, of insect or of bird, that the bees may be discovered by the noise they make. If not, the hunter provides himself with some honey in the comb, which being placed in a small box, with a slide top to it, is set on a stump or on the ground, for them to feed from. So soon as two or three have entered the box, it is shut, and they are gently carried forward in the direction of their course. They are upon allowed to go, after marking them, by dusting on their backs a very little powdered chalk. They will soon return, and the hunter judges of the distance they have gone, by the length of time they were absent. Again he carries them on their course, and again he *lines* them, that is, marks the direction of their flight: thus we speak of a *bee-line*, as a perfectly straight course. If in thus carrying them forward, he passes the bee-tree, they will not return immediately, but have to search some time before they again find out the honey, and when they then take their flight loaded, it is seen that they take an opposite direction.

Some bee-hunters have reduced their favorite pursuit almost to a science, and can find a bee home, with the greatest ease and certainty. It is generally done after the leaf has dropped in the fall, or early in the spring. The hunter continues his search until he has found all the bee-trees within his district, and then prepares to reap his harvest of honey. If the land belongs to the Government, little ceremony is used—*Uncle Sam* is never consulted in such cases: but if it has been *entered*, and the purchaser is within reach, his permission must be had for cutting the trees. It is rare that a bee-hunter's mark is disregarded; where a feeling of honor does not protect his recognized rights, the laws of the frontier are found to be strict and summary. The trees are cut down in such a way, as that by falling them on others, they come to the ground as gently as possible. The bees seem stunned by the fall, and seldom offer much resistance, but if they do, a smoke is raised, which enables the hunter to continue his depredations with impunity. Those bees that happen to be abroad when the tree falls, keep circling round in the air, in search of their lost home, and seem altogether bewildered. The comb is generally much broken up, and the honey is seldom saved in the most careful and cleanly manner; yet it is brought down the Missouri and Mississippi in such quantity as to form quite an article of trade. It is strong and high flavored, and is never so fine as that made by domesticated bees in a cultivated country.—*Bee-Breeding in the West.*

USEFUL RECIPES.

Diseases of Sheep.—We have procured the American edition of Blacklock's Treatise on Sheep, considered the best extant; and as the farmers of the West are turning their attention considerably to the raising of sheep, they will like to have a description of the diseases to which they are most liable, with the most approved remedies. We therefore commence with the classification of diseases as given by Blacklock, and shall exclude the other "useful recipes" till this article shall be finished.

Classification of Diseases.—As the acquirement of correct ideas regarding the treatment of diseases is much facilitated by a simple arrangement of the diseases themselves, numerous attempts have been made to accomplish it, and in a variety of ways. To render the remembrance of the remedies an easy matter, I have adopted the following arrangement, in which each disease is placed opposite the textures it invades.

Diseases affecting	
The Stomach and Intestines,	Blows or Blast. Bravy, Sickness, or Blood. Fining, Daring, Vinquish or Vanquish. Staggers. Diarrhœa or Rush. Dysentery, Cling, Breckshaw, or Brechshuach.
The Skin and Hoofs,	Scab or Itch. Erysipelas or Wild-fire Red Water. Leg Evil or Black-leg.* Inflammatory appearances caused by the Sore Teats Foot-rot.
	1. Maggot 2. Keel. 3. Tick. 4. Œstrus bovis.
The Air Passages,	Inflammation caused by the Coryza.
	1. Œstrus ovis. 2. Pentastome. 3. Strongylus filaria.
Glandular Tissues—viz. the Lungs, Liver, & Kidney,	Rot. Jaundice Dropsy.
The Brain and Spinal Marrow,	Staggers, Gid or Dizzy, caused by Trembling. Thwarter or Leaping-ill. Wood Evil.
	1. Hydatids or Blebs. 2. Hydrocephalus or Water in the Head.
The Eye,	Ophthalmia. Soft Cancer.

* Leg evil ought properly to be classed with diseases of the vascular system, being, it many instances merely a symptom of disease in the heart or great Vessels, but as the same results are arrived at by placing it under the present head, since distinctions would only tend to create confusion.

Blown or Blast, can scarcely be reckoned a disease, as it is but a symptom caused by a mechanical impediment to respiration and circulation. When a sheep has been brought from a poor pasture to a rich one, it is prone to gorge itself to an extent which may endanger life. The lower end of the gullet becomes obstructed, the gases which accumulate in the paunch are hindered from escaping, and the latter becomes so enormously distended as speedily to suffocate the animal by being forced into the chest.

Treatment of Blown.—If the difficulty in breathing be only slight, keep the sheep moving gently up and down, as the air will thus have a chance of escaping from the stomach. If the symptoms are more alarming, pass the elastic tube employed in the same complaint in cattle down the throat, or, if that cannot be procured, use a cane with an ivory or wooden bullet at the end of it. Never *stick* the animal, as recovery by this plan is almost hopeless. If you cannot obtain the aforesaid instruments, bleed the animal till it becomes very faint, and, if this is of no avail, proceed to kill it. Shepherds often prescribe a purgative idea of this occurrence. In general, however, it is not required. To prevent a flock becoming *blown*, always when for the first time on rich pasture, make the dog move leisurely among them so as to prevent them feeding hastily.

(To be continued.)

"In speaking of remedial measures, the word treatment ought to be shut in preference to "cure," which figures at the head of the medical advice in veterinary works. It is whose nonsense to bloaze such a word in pages having any pretensions to candor, for how seldom are we able conscientiously to affirm that our endeavors will be followed by a cure. All we can do is to pursue the treatment best adapted for the attainment of so desirable an end.

IMPORTANT TO SILK CULTURISTS.

Mr. Pleasant, Ohio, August, 1841.

Mr. Fanning—Dear Sir.—I have the pleasure to inform you, that I have this day seen the model of Dr T. White's Silk machine or Filature made in your city; it reflects great credit on the ingenious and enterprising abilities of the Dr, and commands great superiority over any I have yet seen; Its principle is sound, nothing superfluous, nor any thing lacking, upon the first sight it appears complicated, but upon a thorough investigation nothing can be more easy and simple; a girl of fourteen in one hour would fully understand its five fold operations. Symmetry and compactness, elegance and usefulness are wonderfully blended; its excellency can only be appreciated but by the use of it; it has truth in all its operations, and punctuality in all its variations. I have no doubt but it is from 10 to 15 per cent, saved in time and labor. I have seen a sample of the silk it has produced, and it is equal to any I have seen in London, from France and Italy. It is admirably calculated for making sewing silk, or silk for weaving fabrics. I feel great pleasure in strongly recommending it to the public notice, one hour's trial will evince its utility.—Dr. White is an old pioneer in the silk cause; in the year 1835, he started a loom with silk of his own raising in this place, and exhibited a considerable quantity of handkerchiefs worn by my son, who is now weaving silk velvet in your city. In 1839, J. W. Gill, Esq of this place, established a silk factory, with the assistance of Dr. White, and engaged with me as superintendent. Of what has been done here since then I need not say any thing, as you have lately noticed it in your excellent journal, except since we have a French Jaquard loom brought from England for flowered silks for vesting, and considerable increase of machinary. I hope soon to hear that Nashville is not behind us. From Mount Pleasant, the Dr. pioneered his way to Nashville, may prosperity and success attend the united efforts of him and my son. The Dr., with myself consider the locality and congeniality of Tennessee far better than Ohio, no doubt of it. I have seen the velvet woven in your city by my son, for the first starting it is excellent, but every mouth will make further advances in improvement. I anticipated long are this to have heard that a silk company was organized for facilitating and extending the silk weaving in all its various branches, stannings and bearings, but I hope soon to hear the gratifying news. Application has been made to me from Nashville, through the medium of an unknown gentleman, residing in Indiana, relative to Doctor White's character and abilities. I satisfied him, and to save further trouble and application, I would say I have known the Dr. for six years, myself and family have had much dealings with him and he has always paid us honorable, as to his abilities, his machinery, cultivation of trees, management of the silk worms, raising silk, and preparing it for the loom, are sufficient testimonials of his proficiency in the silk business. For the encouragement of silk raisers in your region of country, it may not be amiss to give you a statement up to this dare of our success in raising this season; last April Mr. Gill engaged with my son John Fox Jr., of Economy, Pa, to superintend the raising this season. We have weighed off 300 lbs. and have hatched out 600,000, and have no doubt by the time he is done feading we shall not fall short of one million.—In the year 1839 I never got more than 14 oz. to the bushal, in 1840 I got 15, and this year can avemga 19 oz. of fine reeled silk to the bushel from the white and Gray Mammoth; the Pea Nut I expect from 20 to 21 oz Hitherto our reelers could not evarage more than eight ounces a day, ten hours; this season they are reeling from 16 to 17 oz. 6 to 8 filaments to the thread. I can only attribute this vast change to the indefatigable exertions of my son, with the assistance of Mr. Wm Gill. Permit me, Sir, to close this hasty remarks by saying if you think any part or the whole worthy a corner to your interesting periodical, I shall on gratified by the insertion, and shall feel greatly obliged if you will indulge me with a copy.

Yours respectfully,

John Fox, Sr

Note.—The above needs no comment, as all the facts are stated by a gentleman highly qualified to speak accurately of every operation in relation to silk. A letter from Mr. Fox every month would much encourage the friends to the silk cause.—*Tennessee Agriculturist.*

Salt and Ashes mixed for Stock.—A correspondent of the Farmer's Journal, presents the following testimony as his experience of the value of mixing salt and ashes for stock:

"Having tested the utility of the practice, I am now prepared to speak favorably of it, and, from a firm conviction that stock, of all descriptions, are essentially benefitted thereby. My cows, work-horses and young cattle, as well as sheep, have been regularly supplied with it, as often as once a week, since the snow went off, and notwithstanding the feed in the pastures has been quite short, in consequence of drought, for a large part of the season, the animals are healthy, and generally in better condition than we have known them for years.

"Sheep, especially, are extremely fond of it preferring it to pure salt, and eating it as eagerly as they do meal or corn. As to the general efficacy of the practice, and its tendency as respects the health of stock, I will merely say in conclusion, that I are acquainted with several farmers that have made the same trial, and that in no instance, with which I am familiar, or which has fallen under my notice, has it been attended with other than the best effects. The proportions in which the ingredients should be given, are one part salt to seven of ashes. The salt should be fine, and the ashes dry and free from coals. If thought necessary, the salt may be increased in quantity to two or even three parts instead of one. "Try it, farmers, and see if it doth not 'do good like a medicine.'"

Wool of Merinoes.—The attention of the Farmers of Michigan has been particularly called to the raising of wool. And perhaps the fact is not generally known that the merino sheep do not shed their wool yearly, like other varieties of the sheep, their wool will continue to grow for two years I know from experience. My father having once kept some lambs till they were two years old before he had them sheared; the wool was about twice the common length, of excellent quality, and was manufactured into

worsted for stockings, for which purpose it was suffered to grow. I had the pleasure of testing its quality in a beautiful pair of stockings, which I believe are in being now—more than fifteen years since they were made. The fact of this quality of the Merino sheep, to retain their wool in likwise mentioned by an English writer, Lord Western, he having kept some Merino bucks three years before they were sheared; they yielded from 28 to 30 lbs. per fleece; they were stell fed from lambs, which was probably the reason of their uncommon yield. I have known Merino bucks to yield from seven to eight pounds yearly, kept in the ordinary way. Flocks of Merino sheep that are well kept, will average about three and a half lbs. per head. The climate of Michigan appears to be well adapted to raising sheep. They get very fat in the fall, to appearance like stall fed sheep in New Hampshire and Vermont. The winters are more mild and not as long as these, which is very favorable. Still, the country is new, and many farmers in this vicinity have had their sheep killed by wolves or some other wild beasts: and as long as the forests and marshes are infested with these voracious creatures, it will be dangerous keeping large flocks of sheep.—*Western Farmer.*

AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.

The Winnebago Co. Society held its annual Fair at Rockford, on the 13th inst.; and the exhibition of stock and domestic manufactures was very fine.

The Committees met at 11 o'clock, A. M., to examine the stock, while the exhibition of domestic manufactures was open at the Rockford House. At 2 o'clock, P. M., the procession, under the direction of Jason Marsh, Esq., Marshal, moved to the court house, where the meeting was opened by prayer, by the Rev. Mr. Potter. Dr. J. C. Goodhue then delivered his address, a copy of which has been requested for publication. It is said to be excellent. After the reading of the Constitution by the Secretary, G. W. Lee, Esq.; a strong appeal was made by Rob. J. Cross, Esq., V. P., to those present to join the Society. The Society then marched in procession to the Rockford House, where they partook of a sumptuous dinner.

At 5½ o'clock, the Society organized; R. J. Cross, Esq., in the chair, and G. W. Lee, Esq., Secretary and the Committees made their reports upon premiums, as follows:

Horses.—1st premium for the best Stallion, "Uncas," belonging to J. S. Norton. For the best three years old Stallion Colt, Sam'l. Brown. The best two years old Stallion, Adam Keith. To H. Reddington for the best brood mare. To L. O. Wallem, best yearling Colt. To Saml. Brown for the best two years old Colt.

Cattle.—1st premium to B. T. Lee, for the "Duke of Wellington," as the best Bull of any age. (The Duke was imported in the ship Splendid, Capt. Frost, from Liverpool, with his Dam, while a calf, in 1836. He is of the stock of "Lancaster," who was a descendant of the "White Heifer," that travailed, her Dam by "Wellington," and was bought at Brampton sale for 700 guineas. The Dam of the Duke was travailed in 1834—5; and her Calves brought the highest prize at the Liverpool Fair.) To J. S. Norton, best two years old Bull. (A fine animal, three-fourths Durham.) To Jared Hickox, for the best Bull two years old. (This animal is of fine blood, being three-fourths Devonshire.) To Horace Miller, for the best Cow of any age, with a Calf 10 months old by her side, sired by the Bull Duke of Wellington. To Horace Miller, best heifer under two years. To P. H. Watson, best heifer Calf.

The Committee on Sheep, awarded to Charles Richings the premium for the best Buck—no ewes were offered.

Hogs.—The 1st premium to Horace Miller, for the best Soar. (This animal is a thoroughbred, and as fine a specimen of the full-blooded Berkshire as the county affords. From Lossing's native. near Albany, N. Y.) The premium for the 2nd best Boar, to ——— Wilson, Esq., of *Byron*, for his Prince Albert. (This animal was raised in Albany, N. Y., and obtained at great expense; his stock must rate among the best ever brought into the Rock River country.) The 1st premium for the best Sow, was awarded to J. S. Norton, from his celebrated stock of Irish Graziers. The 1st premium for the two best Pigs, was awarded to Willord Wheeler, and Spafford and Marsh—thorough-bred from Lossing's stye.

Domestic Articles, Corn, &c.—The Committee on Domestic articles reported as follows:

Milton Kilburn, 1st quality Cheese. J. Straw, 1st quality Butter. Asa Crosby, 1st quality Silk. Cocoons, superior quality, exhibited by Messrs. Morgan and Horsman, and Dr. Haskell.

China Tree Corn, by C. J. Horsman. Baden Corn, D. S. Haight. White Dent Corn, J. Psul. (The latter the best for this latitude.)

Round Pink-eyed Potatoes, by H. Enoch, very fine.

Messrs. Morgan & Horsman presented a beautiful specimen of Isabella and Sweet Grapes.

The Misses Paul, five Bonnets and one Hat, superior manufacture.

Isaac Herrod, one Spinning Wheel of good quality.—*Rockford Pilot.*

The Meeting and Fair of the Union Agricultural Society at Naperville, on the 20th and 21st instant.

A few individuals arrived on Tuesday evening, the 19th; and on Wednesday morning they poured in from all directions. Owing to the unpleasant weather, many from a distance were unable to arrive till nearly noon, and nothing was done in the morning except to arrange the animals.

In the P. M. the Committee on Fairs held a meeting to organize; and A. P. Hubbard of Kane co., Benj. Douglas, of La Salle, J. W. Welker of Du Page and John Hill of Cook co., were present. In the absence of John Blackstone of Will, Harry Boardman of the same county, was appointed in his place. The Committee organized by the appointment of A. P. Hubbard as Chairman, and calling in John S. Wright of Cook to act as Secretary.

The Committee having been informed that several ploughs had been brought there for trial, after some discussion as to the course to be adopted, it was

Resolved, That the trial of ploughs should be hast attended to, and that they be tried on a piece of old ground lying about a quarter of a mile west of the Du Page river.

Notice was given accordingly, a procession formed, and preceded by the band of music marched to the ground. The ploughs tried were one brought from Michigan City, by F. Ames, manufactured by him, of cast iron, polished; two from Lockport of steel, with strap mould boards, one open, the other closed; one of a lot of four manufactured by Jas T. Gifford at Elgin, being an improvement on the "Coly" plough; and another, the "Shamel" plough, so called. The preference was given to the Lockport ploughs; as scouring the best—some preferring the open, some the closed mould-board. (Seing very much occupied with other duties, the Secretary could not notice particularly the working of the different ploughs; and expects the Committee on Fairs to furnish a statement.)

The procession was again formed and marched with music from the ploughing ground to the court house. In the absence of the President, the Chair was taken at the court house, by James P. Gifford, V. P. from Kane. After a few remarks by the Chair, the minutes of the last meeting of the Society held at Geneva were read by the Secretary, after which short addresses were delivered by Nathan Allen, jr. of Du Page co., and Wm. Smith of Will. After some further remarks by the Chair, explanatory of the objects and importance of the society, the address of the Commissioners and Trustees to the Farmer and the Friend of Agriculture, accompanying the subscription books, was called for and read by the Secretary. Subscriptions to the Capital Stock were then taken up, and the meeting adjourned till seven o'clock in the evening.

The Society convened according to adjournment, James T. Gifford in the Chair, assisted by Lewis Ellsworth V.P. from Du Page co., and Levi Hills V. P. from La Salle co.

The meeting was divided off into counties, all those present from a county taking seats together. After the subscribers to the Capital Stock had been requested to make themselves known, subscriptions to the Stock were called for from each county. The Secretary then made a statement relative to the Union Agricultural. Remarks were made by several members, when Lewis Ellsworth offered the following resolution, seconded by Isaac Hardy of La Salle county:

Resolved, That it is the duty of each member of the Society to take the Union Agriculturist, as its existence is intimately connected with the prosperity of this Society.

After considerable discussion as to the phraseology, B. L. Dodson of Kane, moved that the words "the duty of" be stricken out and the words "recommended to" be inserted in their place.

Much discussion followed, when the question was called for and the amendment negatived.—The vote was then taken on the original motion, and decided in the affirmative *nem. con.*

The question was introduced, In what manner shall the paper be sided? Some thought it best for the Society to purchase type, in order to reduce the expense of publication. Isaac Hardy said he was willing to give $10 for that purpose. Others thought that if the friends of the paper would exert themselves to increase the subscription list, it would answer every purpose; and be better than to increase the present burthen, by the purchase of type for future benefit. To test the views of the members, Isaac Clark of Du Page co., moved the following, seconded by W. N. Davis of Kendall co.:

Resolved, That the first business of the morning meeting shall be to call for volunteers who will give their services for a specific number of days, to be spent faithfully in procuring subscribers to the Capital Stock and to the paper; and that in those townships or precincts where there shall be no volunteers, the Secretary appoint persons to the work.

Adopted unanimously. The Society then adjourned at 10½ o'clock to meet the next morning at 10 o'clock.

At 9 o'clock A. M. of Thursday, according to previous notice, the Committee on Fairs commenced their examinations of animals.

Horses.—"*Gov. Marchead,*" entered by W. F. Myrick of Chicago; blood bay, 7 years old, 15 hands 1 inch: raised in Ky., sired by Woodpecker, gr. sire Old Sultrand, dam Maria West, sired by Marion; gr. dam by Bell's Florizel; great grand dam by Old Eclipse.—"*Uncas,*" entered by J. S. Norton of Winnebago co.: deep bay, 8 years old, 16 hands 1 inch: raised in Ky., sired by Uncas, his dam by Alpheus. "*Sir William the 2nd,*" entered by James M. Smith of Chicago; dark chesnut, 5 years old, 15 hands high; was raised in DeWitt co.; sired by Old Sir William of Kentucky; gr. sire by Old Sir Archy, dam by young Potomac, out of Old Potomac. "*Wm Burch,*" entered by John Devlin of Chicago; blood bay, 3 years old, 15¾ hands, raised in Indiana: sired by Hood; John, gr. sire John Richards; g. gr. sire, Sir Archy: dam Kitty Clover, sired by Badger, out of Kentucky Whip. "*Tiger Whip,*" entered by Helvey Reed of Lockport, Will co.: dark bay, 4 years old, sired by Tiger Whip of Virginia: dam sired by Diomede.

Brood Mares.—One entered by John Dudley of Du Page co.

Blooded Bulls.—"*Davy Crockett,*" entered by Isaac Hardy, of La Salle co.: color roan, Short-horn Durham, 1-16 Long horn, 1-16 Patton. (Mr. Hardy's statement has been lost, and the description thus far is from recollection.)—"*Nero,*" entered by Miles Hills of Lisbon, Kendall co.; color red; full blooded Short horn Durham; 2 1-2 years old: sired by Eckman, imported by the Ohio Importing co, sold for $2,500: dam ——— imported and sold by same company for $1,300. "*Tiger,*" entered by John Naper, Lewis Ellsworth and James Lamb, of Naperville Du Page co.; color red and white, 1-2 Durham, 1-2 Devonshire, 2 3-4 years old; from the stock of J. Counsel, Sangamon co.—"*Wye Comet,*" entered by Josephus P. Jonca of Du Page co., color white and brownish red; full blooded Short-horn Durham; 4 years old, gr. dam imported by Consul Jarvis of Vermont; gr. sire Old Wye Comet imported by Col. Stevenson of Baltimore. "*Durham Grey,*" entered by Samuel Thatcher of Downer's Grove, Du Page co.; color greyish Brindle; said to be Short-horn Durham, six years old; calved in Morgan co. raised in Sangamon.

Blooded Bucks.—"*Tim,*" entered by Lewis Ellsworth, of Naperville; pure Merino, 3 1-2 years old; sheared 7 lbs. One entered by Wm. Hall of Will co., pure Bakewell. One entered by Darius Hewitt of Kane co.; Merino with a little Saxony; 6 years old; sheared 8 lbs. 5 oz., raised in Reading, Steuben co. N. Y. One entered by Townsend Seely of Oswego, Kendall co.; pure Merino; 8 years old. Another sastered by dittoy 3-4 Merino, 1-4 Saxony; 4 years old.

Lots of Ewes.—Five entered by Lewis Ellsworth of Naperville, Merino with a little Saxony; brought two years since from Kentucky.—Five entered by Townsend Seely of Oswego; 3-4 Merino 1-4 Saxony; 2 years old; brought last July from New York.

Blooded Cow.—"*Bessie Bell,*" entered by Pierre A. Baker of Aurora Kane co.; 3 years old; color red; 3-4 Short-hora Durham, 1-4 Long horn.

Common Cows.—One entered by Robert Naper, of Naperville; 8 years old; color red and white; 1-4 short-horn Durhom, 3-4 common.—One entered by Columbus Pinney of Du Page co.; 6 years old; color red; part Tecswater.

Heifer.—"*Rose,*" entered by Pierre A. Baker of Aurora, Kane co.; color white; 2 years old; 3-4 Potton, 1-4 Improved Durham.

Calves.—A ball calf entered by Colombus Pinney, of Du Page co.; 5 months 11 days old; 1-4 Durham. Sull calf "*Wye Comet,* 2nd," entered by J. P. Jnaes of Du Page co; 5 months 8 days old; 1-2 Durham, sired by Wye Comet; dam common cow. A heifer calf entered by S. Thatcher, of Dowaer's Grove Du Page co.; ten months old; sired by Durham Grey; dam a common cow. Heifer calf "*Victoria,*" entered by Wm. Wheeler, of Slackberry, Kane co.; 5 months 17 days old; 7-8 Durhom, 1-8 common.

"*Boars*—"*Brutain,*" entered by Joseph Viel of Cook co; 13 1-2 months old; full blooded Berkshire from J. Lossing's stock, Albany, N. Y.—"*Daniel O'Connel,*" entered by J. S. Norton of Winnebago co.; a full blooded Irish Grazier, 3 1-2 years old; out of Judith. "*Black Prince,*" entered by N. Peters of Du Page co.; 2 years 1 month old, a full blooded Berkshire, imported by Mr. ———, of Canada. "*Nimrod,*" entered by Lewis Ellsworth, of Naperville; 1 year 4 months old, full blooded Berkshire; from Henry Vail's stock of Troy, N. Y. "———," entered by Jesse B. Ketcham of Kane co.; 5 months 18 days old; 7-8 Leicester, and 1-8 Irish Grazier.

Sows.—"*Judith,*" entered by J. S. Norton of Winnebago co.; 4 1-2 years old, full blooded Irish Grazier, from Mr. Greer's imported stock. "*Rebecca,*" entered by E. W. Brewster of Elgin, Kane co.; 5 months 23 days old, full blooded Berkshire, from A. S. Allen's stock, Suffalo, N. Y. "———," entered by David Wheeler of Blackberry Kane co., 4 months 5 days old, a full blooded Berkshire from Henry Vail's stock of Troy N. Y.

Butter.—Lots of Suits of 25 lbs and over, were presented by Thomas Andras of Cass Du Page co.; Rice Foy of Elgin Kane co, Joseph Viel, of Goshen Cook co; Miss Hawkins of Du Page co, and Samuel Thatcher of Du Page co.

Cheese.—Lots of cheese, of 30 lbs and over, were presented by Rice Foy of Elgin Kane co.; and Thomas Andrds of Cass Du Page co.

Domestic Cloth.—Nathan Wesson, of Dundee, Kane co., produced 203 yards, manufactured in his family from this year's clip. Mrs. Palmer, two pieces of about 60 yards, made by herself.

Silk.—Miss Caroline Strong presented a beautiful silk scarf, made by herself from silk of her own raising. Also a quantity of silk prepared for knitting.

(The statements of pedigrees, etc., are given as they were furnished to the Committee; and where there are deficiences, they are owing to want of information.)

The Committee on Fairs having completed its examinations, a procession was formed under the direction of E. W. Brewster, of Elgin, Marshal; and accompanied with music marched to the court house. The meeting was organized the same as on the previous evening, those from the same County occupying seats together. The Chair stated the first business to be, the action of members upon the resolution adopted last evening; and called for volunteers from Cook co., who would give a certain time to be devoted to procuring subscribers to the Capital Stock, and to the Union Agriculturist; or who would engage to secure a particular district of country.

In Cook co., Charles Sisson, of Des Plains, offered his services for two days; Joshua Bell for —days; Joseph Viel to scour Lyons precinct; John Devlin to obtain subscribers in Chicago; and Jno. Hill to scour Barrington precinct.

In Du Page co., Lewis Ellsworth volunteered for 6 days, and pledged himself for 30 subscribers. Nathan Allen, Jr., volunteered for 7 days; E. B. Bill for 6 days; Samuel Anderson for 6 days; T. Andrus to scour Cass precinct; Josiah Straag for 6 days; Dan M. Greene "for the war;" E. A. Bush to scour Webster precinct; and R. N. Murray — days at Naperville.

In Kendall co., Wm. Noble Davis volunteered for 2 days; John L. Clark for 2 days; S. C. Collins for 2 days; James McClellen, Jr., for 2 days; Levi Hills for 2 days; Townsend Seeley for 2 days; and G. W. Johnson for — days.

In Kane co., P. Y. Bliss volunteered to scour Sugar Grove; David Whealer to scour Blackberry and vicinity; B. E. Dodson for 2 days; Wm. E. West for 1 day; Edward W. Brewster, to obtain 10 subscribers; P. A. Barker for — days; Elijah Lee to scour Bandusky precinct; and Chas Patton for — days.

In La Salle co., Isaac Hardy, L. P. Sanger and Harvey Leonard said they would "attend to that *little* county." D. C. Underhill volunteered to obtain subscribers at Marseilles and in its vicinity.

In Will co., Chester Ingersoll volunteered for 6 days, Ezra Goodhue for — days; Will'm. Smith "for the war"—did "not want to be limited to a certain time," J. A. Gooding to scour Spring Creek precinct; Robert Strong, to scour Du Page precinct; and Harry Soundman for — days.

(In Lake, McHenry, and Grundy counties, there were no volunteers offered themselves. It is expected those who will be willing to act will send in their names *immediately.*)

Isaac Hardy stated to the Society, that a great many were prevented from subscribing to the Capital Stock, because it was expected one of the first things to be done with the funds would be the establishing of an experimental farm; which ought to be one of the last things attempted: that in his opinion the first thing for the Society to engage in when the funds should permit, was the improvement of stock; and that he thought if the Society would determine publicly not to commence a farm till a majority should desire it, the subscriptions to the Capital Stock would increase rapidly. He therefore moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Charles Sisson, of Cook:

Resolved, That the Society shall not commence a farm for the present, and not till it shall be determined upon by a majority of the members present at some future annual meeting.

John S. Wright said it was not contemplated to commence a farm till the funds in the treasury should fully warrant it: that many non resident land-holders were deeply interested in the prosperity of this Society, and would be willing to aid it by donating 40, 80, and 160 acre lots, which could be exchanged till a farm was obtained that would answer the purpose and be central: that Mr. Wm. B. Ogden had already offered to give a quarter section; and that as the value of land in this region depended on the progress of agricultural improvement: and as the building up of this Society would be one of the easiest and cheapest means of promoting the desired improvement, other large real-estate owners would also see it to be for their interest to give the Society land for a farm, so that in all probability no money for land would be necessary: that so far as he knew the opinions of those who had interested themselves in building up the Society, they all coincided with Mr. Hardy, and that, therefore, in reality the adoption of such a resolution was unnecessary; though to set the question at rest in the minds of all, it might be well to adopt it.

Lewis Ellsworth, Charles Sisson, and others made remarks, when the question was called for, and the resolution adopted unanimously.

Levi Hills offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the volunteers and those appointed to receive subscriptions to the Capital Stock and to the paper, be required to make reports to the Secretary within 30 days, or by the 20th November: which was adopted unanimously.

The Chair then called the Society to order to attend to the annual report of the Recording Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Gentlemen of the Union Agricultural Society:—In accordance with the 10th sect. of the 7th art. of the by-laws, I herewith submit the annual report, required of your Recording Secretary, "upon the accounts and general condition of the Society, its wants and prospects."

Owing to the failure of most of the Commissioners to report the names of subscribers obtained by them to the Capital Stock, and a like failure on the part of the Committees appointed by them to procure subscribers, it is impossible to furnish any exactness the amount received upon subscription. But I have received notice of the following: in DuPage co. 39 shares; Cook 25, Kane 30; Will 12; La Salle 14; Lake 2; in all 122 shares, on each of which 50 cents have been paid. There have doubtless been other subscriptions that have not been returned to me. This $61 constitutes the entire receipts into the treasury.

The expenses have been as follows:

For certified copies of the act of incorporation, and the amendment,	$8 57
Postage,	2 80
Writing and printing paper,	5 69
Printing handbills and books of subscription to stock,	30 75
Charges on Bachelder's planting machine from Alton to Chicago,	2 75
Accounts books and stationary,	12 37
Sundries for office,	2 38
Paid Wm. Stuart for printing,	7 50
" Holcomb & Co., "	12 00
	$84 81

The balance of this amount, over and above the receipts into the treasury is $23 81, which has been paid by John S. Wright.

There is also due on account as follows:

To S. F. Gale for paper and stationary, $6 56

" W. Stuart for printing & advertising, 54 75
" Col John Wentworth for advertising, 21 62
" John Gregg for do. 3 50

There was also an appropriation at the last annual meeting to the Secretary for his services, and to aid in publishing the paper, of 100 00
Add the amount paid by Jno S. Wright, 23 81

Total indebtedness, $210 18

This debt, except the $100 to the Secretary, is very pressing; and it is hoped means will be provided at this meeting for its liquidation. A considerable part of Messrs Stuart's and Wentworth's bills being for advertising the meetings of the Society, &c., which have been charged according to their regular rates, it is hoped, considering the public benefit of the institution, that a liberal deduction will be made from their accounts. This, however, must be left entirely to their generosity.

The general condition of the Society is excellent; though to understand more fully its situation, it would be well to briefly state its doings. The meeting held at this place one year since was the second; the first one for the organization of the Society under the act of incorporation, having been held at Joliet, the July previous. That being the first, was but poorly attended, but at the second; the general turn-out from Du Page, together with some from the adjoining counties, evinced the determination of the farmers to sustain their agricultural Society; and furnished convincing proof, to those present, that the enterprise must be successful. At this meeting the by-laws were adopted, and it was determined to establish the Union Agriculturist. The next meeting was held at Ottawa; where the attendance was very good, considering that the farmers in the vicinity were so little informed of the proposed plan of operations. G. A. O. Beaumont delivered the address. The next meeting was called at Chicago, but nothing done; the gentleman who was expected to deliver the address having been unable to attend. A subsequent meeting was held at Chicago, when Solon Robinson, Esq. addressed the Society, and a large concourse of the friends of agriculture. The next meeting was at Geneva, where more interest was manifested in the cause than at any previous one; not, perhaps, because the farmers of Kane realised more fully the importance of such enterprises, than those of other counties, but a few had become awake to the subject, and had taken the trouble to acquaint their neighbors with the meeting and the plan of the Society, which was all that was necessary to procure a general attendance. More were present also from adjoining counties, than at any previous meeting. James T. Gifford addressed the Society, and arrangements were made for the Fair. This brings us to the time; and as to the *present* general condition of the Society, do we need stronger evidence of its healthfulness—of the rapidly increasing interest in its prosperity, than the multitudes we see present from the entire district, at this its first Fair?

Relative to the *wants* of the Society, does any one present a doubt what they are? Is anything else needed in the liberal-minded West, than a warm heart-felt interest to its prosperity, and a just appreciation of its importance to the cause of agricultural improvement among us? But some one may say, such an enterprise requires something more *substantial* than merely *feeling*—an interest in it—it can't be promoted, and its expenses defrayed by mere *sympathy*. Very true, friend, but as a general thing, we are not to judge of a man's interest in such a cause by his *professions*, but by his *actions*. If a man in rather poor circumstances be unable to take more than one share of the stock, and does that cheerfully, it is encouraging the cause much; for we all know that when able he will do more, and that too without coercion. And if a man of ability subscribes for all that is allowed him, 10 shares; no one will doubt *his* love for the cause. Then if we see another man of wealth, who likes the approbation of his neighbors, and wishes to gain it at the least possible cost—who makes great professions of regard for the public good—is most *wonderfully* interested in such a cause as agricultural improvement, and then subscribes in the most patronizing manner for *one share* wishing he could get some one to join him in it; who would expect any real assistance from such a character? We have reason to believe they are seldom seen in the West, for the credit of the Society, it is to be hoped none such are present.

We can say without fear of erring; all that is wanted to make the Union Agricultural Society all that the West would wish it to be, and all that its most sanguine friends expect for it, is for the people of these eight counties to interest themselves warmly in its prosperity, and to subscribe liberally to its Capital Stock; and we wish no better test of the former, than that given in the performance of the latter.

But the most interesting theme to dwell upon, is the *prospects* of the Society. Tho' organized but a little more than a year since, through the exertions of only a few friends, still were all delighted with what has been accomplished in this short period; and when we think of the rapid increase of its members; the vast accession of talents and influence in its behalf; the union in supporting it of the energetic youth, with the man grey with experience, the heart beat high with expectation, in considering the great results and speedy progress that must attend the exertions of the many now engaged in the work.

And who will refuse to aid a cause of such paramount importance to us as that of agricultural improvement? What other cause is worth naming the same day with it? We are emphatically a farming population: and those that are not farming are dependant upon those that are for their prosperity. It is evident as the light of day, that as agriculture flourishes with us, so will flourish every other interest. Who then that regards the prosperity of his adopted country—his future home, will refuse to give all the aid in his power in moving forward this enterprise?

But, gentlemen, tho' there is so much around to inspire us with enthusiasm—tho' we feel the progress of our cause must henceforth be onward with giant strides; let us not forget what ever is done, is to be accomplished by universal personal exertions. And tho' what each one does may seem to him small, compared with the aggregate to be accomplished, let him not underrate slightly of his individual efforts. Remember the Mississippi, as it rolls onward in its resistless course from our Southern boundary, owes its greatness to the union of insignificant streamlets. And let our action be like those streamlets—continued—perpetual—and we may—we will see the progress of our cause, will be like that of the "Father of Waters," steady—resistless, till it shall have reached its glorious ends.

(Signed) JNO S WRIGHT,
Recording Secretary.

On motion of Levi Hills, the report of the Secretary was adopted.

Isaac Clark said it was important that precinct and township meetings be held to increase the interest in agricultural improvement and effect this object.

B. E. Dodson said he had drawn up a resolution which he thought would meet the gentlemans views, and introduced the following:

Resolved, That we recommend to the different precincts within the limits of this agricultural Society, the expediency of holding precinct agricultural meetings: and any who may feel willing to lecture upon the subject, will please forward their names to the Corresponding Secretary.

Mr Clark said that met his views exactly, and accepted it as a modification of his resolution. The vote was taken upon it, and it was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Lewis Ellsworth,

Resolved, That the Society proceed to the election of Trustees; and that the members from each of the original counties named in the Charter, withdraw to make their nominations, and return immediately to report the same to the Society.

The members having returned and made their nominations, they were required to prepare their ballots for forty Trustees from the original counties of La Salle, Will, Cook and Kane. The subscribers to the capital stock from the county of McHenry, (now including Lake,) not having reported themselves, there could be no election in that county.

Upon counting the ballots, it was found the following persons were elected.

In Cook Co.—Joseph Vial, John Hill, Hiram Pearsons, Charles Sisson, John S. Wright, Isaac Clark, Thomas Andros, Samuel Anderson, Lewis Ellsworth and John W Walker.

In Kane co—Wm. B West, Allen P. Hubbard, Tho. Whipple, William Noble Davis, H W. Brewster, James T. Gifford, Charles Fate, Samuel McCarthy, James McClellan, and P. V. Sikes.

In Will co—William Smith, Jasper A. Gooding, Charles Desmond, Samuel Goodrich, Dan Goodhue, Horace Mouse, Justin Taylor, Chester Ingersoll, William B. Peck, and Calvin Hooley.

In La Salle Co—Levi Hills, L. P. Sanger, Harvey Leonard, Theron D Brewster, D C Underhill, Samuel C. Collins, Townsend Seeley, Jeremiah J Cole, John L. Clark and Henry Green.

Upon motion of Joseph Naper, seconded by Wm. Smith,

Resolved, That these forty persons with the ten in McHenry co., be declared duly elected Trustees of this Society for the coming year.

On motion of John S Wright, the Society then adjourned till 2 o'clock P. M.

The Society convened according to adjournment and was called to order, the same officers presiding.

E W Brewster, the Marshall, said that the Society was under great obligations to the members of the Chicago band for their efficient aid in forming the processions, and for the increased interest their delightful music had afforded to the meeting. He therefore moved the adoption of the following resolution

Resolved, That the sincere and heartfelt thanks of this Society be tendered the members of the Chicago band of music for their gratuitous and efficient services on this occasion.

The resolution having been adopted the Chair called upon the Committee on Fairs to report their decisions as to the awarding of the premiums.

Isaac Hardy moved the adoption of the following.

Resolved, That the Committee on Fairs be required to give their reasons for their decisions; and that the entire proceedings of the Committee, together with the pedigrees of the animals, be published in the Union Agriculturist.

Seconded by Lewis Ellsworth, and adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FAIRS.

Benj. Douglass read the following awards of premiums:

On Stallions—the 1st premium to Jas. Norton, for his horse *Uncas*, the best for his muscular power and good points for a draft horse; the 2nd to W. F. Mynick, for his horse *Gen. Morehead*, second best for his speed, beauty and activity: the 3d prem. to Harvey Leonard, for his horse *Tiger Whip*, third best for his great strength and durability for the farmers use: the 4th prem. to Jas. M. Smith, for his horse *Sir William the 2nd*, fourth best for his action and good blood.

Brood Mares—1st prem. to John Dudley.

Bulls—1st prem. to Miles Hills, for his Durham Bull *Nero*, first best for color, blood, beauty and for good stock: 2nd prem. to Isaac Hardy for his Durham bull *David Crockett*, second best for his beauty and great size: 3d prem. to J. P. Jones for his Durham bull *Wye Comet*, third best for beauty and for good stock for dairy purposes: 4th prem. to Lewis Ellsworth & Co., for their Durham and Devonshire bull *Tiger*, fourth best for his superiority of stock for dairy purposes.

Bloaded Cows—1st prem. to P. A. Barker, Jr. for his cow *Bessie Bell*, for her good blood and fine appearance.

Common Cows—1st prem. to Rody Napier, son of Joseph Napor, for the best cow for beauty and excellent qualities for milk: 2d prem. to Columbus Pinney for second best cow for her stock and great quantity of milk.

Heifer—To Pierre A. Barker Jr. the Committee award a discretionary premium of a diploma, for his very fine 2 year old heifer. *Rose.*

Calves—1st prem. to J. P. Jones for his bull calf *Wye Comet 2nd*. 2nd prem. to David Wheeler for his heifer calf *Victoria*: 3d prem. to Samuel Thatcher for his calf got by Durham Grey.

Blooded Bucks—1st prem. to Darius Hewett for his Merino and Saxony buck: 2nd prem. to Townsend Seeley for his full blooded Merino buck: 3d prem. to Wm Hall for his Bakewell buck: 4th prem. to Lewis Ellsworth for his Merino and Saxony buck.

Ewes—1st prem to Lewis Ellsworth, for 5 ewes well adapted to this climate: 2nd prem to Townsend Seeley for 5 ewes, for their fine wool.

Boars—1st prem to J S Norton, for his Irish Grazier boar *Daniel O'Connell*, for his great size, beauty, and adaptation to Illinois 2nd prem to J Vial, for his Berkshire boar *Brittain*, being well adapted to cross with the Irish Grazier. 3d prem. to Jesse B Ketchum, for his Leicestershire and Irish Grazier boar: 4th prem to Lewis Ellsworth for his Berkshire boar *Nimrod*.

Sows—1st prem. to J. S. Norton, for his Irish Grazier sow *Judith*: 2nd prem. to *David Wheeler* for his Berkshire sow. 3d prem. to E. W Brewster for his Berkshire sow *Rebecca*.

Butter—To J. Vial the prem. for the best 25 lbs. of butter.

Cheese—To Rice Fay the prem. for the best 50 lbs. of cheese.

Domestic Cloth—To Nathan Wesson, the prem for the greatest number of yards of domestic cloth, from this year's clip: To Miss Palmer the prem. for the best piece of domestic cloth.

Silk—The Committee award a diploma to Miss Caroline Strong (which she will please accept with the thanks of the Society,) for a beautiful silk scarf, and a specimen of silk, not sufficient in quantity to receive the premium ordered.

We, the undersigned, Committee on Fairs, of the Union Agricultural Society do hereby declare the above to be correct awards to the best of our judgment. (signed,) A. W Hubbard, John W Walker, John Hill Harry Boardman, B Douglass, *Committee on Fairs.* &c.

The Report having been received, the Chair stated that Mr Stuart, of Michigan City, was present, who had interested himself much in sustaining the Union Agriculturist; and that if agreeable to him, the Society would be pleased to receive an address from him.

Mr Stuart came forward and delivered a short but interesting address, giving an account of the progress of agricultural improvement in Northern Indiana, and urging the importance of this Society, and especially of sustaining the Union Agriculturist.

Wm. Smith then moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to correspond with the different agricultural Societies of the West—enquiring upon what subjects each one proposes to offer premiums, with a view of concentrating the prizes upon such things as the best plough, the best field of hemp, and such other subjects as may be of interest to the West in general.

Mr. Smith explained his object in offering the resolution to be, so to unite the premiums offered by different societies in the West, that it shall be made more of an object to compete for the prizes offered upon those subjects of interest to the West generally.

After the adoption of the resolution by a unanimous vote, Townsend Seeley moved that hedge fences be also added. Upon its being explained, that it was not intended to limit the application of the resolution to the few objects named in it, but that it was intended to apply to every subject in which all parts of the West were equally interested, he withdrew his motion.

Wm Noble Davis moved that the thanks of the Society be presented Mr. Stuart, for his interesting address. Adopted.

Considerable discussion followed, concerning the alteration of the by-laws, so as to diminish the labors of the Committee on Fairs, by the appointment of viewing Committees, who should judge of the merits of the different kinds of stock, reporting to the Committee on Fairs. Nathan Allen, Jr., stated any alterations of the by-laws were to be made by the Trustees; and the subject was therefore referred to them.

The Pres. appointed Isaac Hardy, Harry Boardman, and Wm Noble Davis a Nominating Committee, according to the 4th sect. of the 8th art of the by-laws, to report names to fill the Committees.

The Chair called upon the Nominating Committee to report the names of five members to act as the Committee on Fairs for the ensuing year. They reported as follows. G Burrell of Will co., L P. Sanger, of La Salle, J T. Gifford, of Kane, Harry Boardman, of Will, and J. A. Gooding, of Will.

On motion of Wm. Smith, the report was accepted, and the nominations confirmed.

The Society then adjourned.

JOHN S. WRIGHT,
Recording Secretary.

AGRICULTURAL REPOSITORY.

THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY has now opened its Repository at 112 Lake Street, and consignments are solicited of

GRAINS, ROOTS, AND SEEDS of all kinds.
FRUIT TREES AND SHRUBBERY,
GARDENING AND FARMING
IMPLEMENTS, AND MACHINES

Either common or patented; and anything useful in Agriculture.

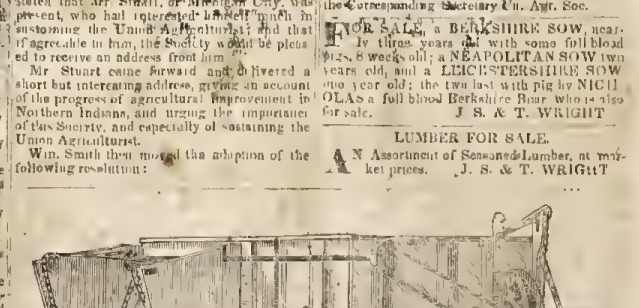
Commissions for the purchase or sale of valuable animals, will receive particular attention.

Communications, *post-paid* may be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary Un. Agr. Soc.

FOR SALE, a BERKSHIRE SOW, nearly three years old with some full blood pigs, 8 weeks old; a NEAPOLITAN SOW two years old, and a LEICESTERSHIRE SOW one year old: the two last with pig by NICHOLAS a full blood Berkshire Boar who is also for sale. J. S. & T. WRIGHT

LUMBER FOR SALE.

AN Assortment of Seasoned Lumber, at market prices. J. S. & T. WRIGHT



CHURCHILL & DANFORD'S "IMPROVED MODE OF HARVESTING."

THIS mode of Harvesting consists in threshing the grain while standing, without cutting the straw, and saving the grain in the chaff, no cutting machinery being used.

This improvement has been thoroughly tested during the past harvest and has surpassed the hopes of the most sanguine, and will, in a short time, be the only mode of harvesting.

The machinery is simple and durable, and requires but six men, and four horses to operate a machine that will harvest, on an average, from ten to fifteen acres per day.

The advantages of this mode of harvesting are, a saving of three-fourths of the usual expense of harvesting and threshing, having the grain ready for immediate marketing, saving the grain free from the dust attached to the butts of the straw, and leaving the straw as a manure on the field in a good condition to be ploughed under.

The arrangement of the machinery is such that it can be used for threshing from the stook, stook, or gavel. Also the gearing may be taken from the carriage and used as a stationary horse-power.

Application for Rights or Machines may be made to the proprietors at La Fox P. O., Kane Co., Illinois.

A. CHURCHILL,
E DANFORD.

The Union Agriculturist

AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

VOL. I. CHICAGO, NOVEMBER, 1841. NO. 11.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST;

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, EDITED BY THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, THE ORGAN OF THE ILLINOIS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TERMS.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month, at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance.* Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid.* Same subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting, can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed in the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1,50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance.* Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

AN ACT

To appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and to grant pre emption rights.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the passage of this act, every person, being the head of a family, or widow, or single man, over the age of twenty-one years, and being a citizen of the United States, or having filed his declaration of intention to become a citizen, as required by the naturalization laws, who, since the first day of June, A. D. eighteen hundred and forty, has made, or shall hereafter make, a settlement in person on the public lands to which the Indian title had been, at the time of such settlement, extinguished, and which has been, or shall have been, surveyed prior thereto, and who shall inhabit and improve the same, and who has or shall erect a dwelling thereon, shall be, and is hereby, authorized to enter with the register of the land office for the district in which such land may lie, by legal subdivisions, any number of acres not exceeding one hundred and sixty, or a quarter section of land, to include the residence of such claimant, upon paying to the United States the minimum price of such land, subject, however, to the following limitations and exceptions: No person shall be entitled to more than one pre-emptive right by virtue of this act, no person who is the proprietor of three hundred and twenty acres of land in any State or Territory of the United States, and no person who shall quit or abandon his residence on his own land to reside on the public land in the same State or Territory, shall acquire any right of pre emption under this act; no lands included in any reservation, by any treaty, law, or proclamation of the President of the United States, or reserved for salines, or for other purposes; no lands reserved for the support of schools, nor the lands acquired by either of the two last treaties with the Miami tribe of Indians in the State of Indiana, or which may be acquired of the Wyandot tribe of Indians in the State of Ohio, or other Indian reservation to which the title has been or may be extinguished by the United States at any time during the operation of this act; no sections of land reserved to the United States alternate to other sections granted to any of the States for the construction of any canal, rail-road, or other public improvement; no sections or fractions of sections included within the limits of any incorporated town; no portions of the public lands which have been selected as the site for a city or town; no parcel or lot of land actually settled and occupied for the purposes of trade and not agriculture; and no lands on which are situated any known salines or mines, shall be liable to entry under and by virtue of the provisions of this act. And so much of the provisions of the act of twenty-second of June, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, or any order of the President of the United States, as directs certain reservations to be made in favor of certain claims under the treaty of Dancing-rabbit creek, be, and the same is hereby, repealed: *Provided*, That such repeal shall not affect any title to any tract of land secured in virtue of said treaty.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That when two or more persons shall have settled on the same quarter section of land, the right of pre-emption shall be in him or her who made the first settlement, provided such persons shall conform to the other provisions of this act and all questions as to the right of pre-emption arising between different settlers shall be settled by the register and receiver of the district within which the land is situated, subject to an appeal to and revision by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted*, That prior to any entries being made under and by virtue of the provisions of this act, proof of the settlement and improvement thereby required, shall be made to the satisfaction of the register and receiver of the land district in which such lands may lie, agreeably to such rules as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall each be entitled to receive fifty cents from each applicant for his services, to be rendered as aforesaid; and all assignments and transfers of the right hereby secured, prior to the issuing of the patent, shall be null and void.

SEC. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That before any person claiming the benefit of this act shall be allowed to enter such lands, he or she shall make oath before the receiver or registor of the land district in which the land is situated, (who are hereby authorised to administer the same) that he or she has never had the benefit of any right of pre-emption under this act; that he or she is not the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land in any State or Territory of the United States, nor hath he or she settled upon and improved said land to sell the same on speculation, but in good faith to appropriate it to his or her own exclusive use or benefit; and that he or she has not, directly or indirectly, made any agreement or contract, in any way or manner, with any person or persons whatsoever, by which the title which he or she might acquire from the Government of the United States, should enure in whole or in part, to the benefit of any person except himself or herself; and if any person taking such oath shall swear falsely in the premises, he or she shall be subject to all the pains and penalties of perjury, and shall forfeit the money which he or she may have paid for said land, and all right and title to the same, and any grant or conveyance which he or she may have made, except in the hands of bona fide purchasers, for a valuable consideration, shall be null and void. And it shall be the duty of the officer administering such oath to file a certificate thereof in the public land office of such district, and to transmit a duplicate copy to the General Land Office, either of which shall be good and sufficient evidence that such oath was administered according to law.

SEC. 14. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall not delay the sale of any of the public lands of the United States beyond the time which has been, or may be, appointed by the proclamation of the President, nor shall the provisions of this act be available to any person or persons who shall fail to make the proof and payment, and file the affidavit required before the day appointed for the commencement of the sales as aforesaid.

SEC. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That when ever any person has, settled or shall settle and improve a tract of land, subject at the time of settlement to private entry, and shall intend to purchase the same under the provisions of this act, such person shall in the first case, within three months after the passage of the same, and in the last within thirty days next after the date of such settlement, file with the register of the proper district a written statement describing the land settled upon, and declaring the intention of such person to claim the same under the provisions of this act, and shall, where such settlement is already made, within twelve months after the passage of this act, and where it shall hereafter be made, within the same period after the date of such settlement, make the proof, affidavit, and payment herein required; and if he or she shall fail to file such written statement as aforesaid, or shall fail to make such affidavit proof, and payment, within the twelve months aforesaid, the tract of land so settled and improved shall be subject to the entry of any other purchaser.

Approved, September 4, 1841.

FARMER'S CLUB.—The season is approaching when farmers will have leisure time during the long winter evenings for social, mental and moral culture, and opportunities to improve in all things connected with the practice of their art; it is the time to gather knowledge and lay up facts for future use.

What means are best calculated to attain this end?

Agricultural papers are an important help—Every farmer who wishes to thrive in his business ought to take one or more agricultural papers. There is not a number published but contains a useful hint, and the information contained in a volume, will, if properly and judiciously applied, save, in the labor of man and beast, much more than the expense of a score of volumes. They pass from hand to hand in the farmer's household. The wife and daughters learn something from them that is useful; the boys acquire a taste for reading on the subject of their employment, and as new ideas are presented to them in a shape that they can understand, they become more interested in it; they take hold with a will, and perform their appropriate duties with greater facility, and greater advantage to their employer, the patient animals on the farm, and themselves.

But readers of agricultural papers ought not to expect, in the present state of the science of agriculture, and their own deficiency in knowledge of the fundamental principles of their art, a unity of sentiment among agricultural writers. Neither ought they always to expect success in adopting an experiment that has proved advantageous and profitable to the one who narrates it; they ought not to condemn the paper that recommends a mode of practice that is unsuccessful with them. There are many reasons why success does not uniformly attend the same course of practice. In the first place the *idea* may be imperfectly received by the mind; again differences in soil, manure, &c., though slight, may defeat the result expected.

The question arises, how shall farmers avail themselves profitably of new discoveries and new developments in the science and practice of agriculture, that are from time to time laid before them? The answer is plain. By acquiring a thorough knowledge of the fundamental principles of agriculture.

By the organization of Farmers' Clubs in every town or school district, where farmers can meet each other one evening in a week, for the purpose of discussion on the principles of agriculture, where doubtful modes of practice can be inquired into, where improvements that have been adopted in other places can be investigated, and their adaptation to particular locations be fully understood; where the primary principles of agricultural science would be made the subject of frequent conversation and inquiry, and all the good that can be derived from such organizations be obtained. The plan is simple, feasible and profitable. Great good must result from its adoption. The same measures have been adopted to nearly every parish in England, and they have become exceedingly popular. The reports published by these clubs from time to time, show the great interest that persons of all grades take in them, and the rapid strides that are made in improvement. In order to give an idea of the manner in which these clubs are conducted, we shall publish, next week, a report of the doings of one of them, extracted from an English publication, and also give a list of agricultural books that ought to be owned by farmers so organized. Every farming town ought to have an agricultural library.—*Yankee Farmer.*

ON THE PROPAGATION AND CULTIVATION OF THE QUINCE TREE.—The quince is a very beautiful tree when in flower, and when the fruit is ripe in autumn, highly ornamental. It derives its name from *Cydon*, a town in Crete famous for the fruit—whence its generic name Cydonia.

The trees are easily raised by layers, or by cuttings, taken from the tree in April. Select a shady place in order to plant them in rows, at about a foot apart from each other, and about four inches from plant to plant in rows; spread over the surface of the ground rotten leaves or manure, when the planting is finished, which will keep the ground from sudden drought; also water occasionally, if there should be a continuance of dry weather.

The year following, those that are well rooted may be planted out in May, and those that are not should remain another year. They may also be propagated by budding or grafting; and these trees will bear fruit sooner, and are generally thought to be more prolific than those raised by any other method.

The best sort for planting is the Portugal, being highly prized for baking or stewing. It is of a fine purple color, when dressed, and is much better for marmalade than any of the other varieties. The oblong pear quince, and the apple quince, are also cultivated for family use: but the Portugal sort is in the greatest repute, either for cooking or preserving.

The quince tree may be pruned much in the same way as you would prune an apple tree, taking care to cut out all the old diseased wood, and cross branches in the tree which injure each other by friction. Old trees are very apt to have rough bark, when this is the case, it should be shaved off with a draw-knife, and the stems washed over with soap suds and tobacco water. The trees will thrive in almost any kind of soil, but grow the best in a deep loamy soil, with rather a moist bottom.

The quince tree also makes excellent stocks on which to graft pears, in order to obtain dwarf trees; for this purpose they may be propagated by cuttings put in as before mentioned. The tree may be budded the second or third year according to the growth they have made.

This fruit is but little cultivated, and in consequence, always commands a high price in our market: it is as easily grown as any other fruit, and does well in situations where other kinds of fruit trees will not thrive. A little more attention to their cultivation, and a very handsome profit could be realized from a limited piece of ground.—*Selected.*

PERIOD OF GESTATION IN COWS.—One of the most satisfactory experiments relating to the subject on record, is the one made by Earl Spencer, and the particulars of which are given in the second number of the English Agricultural Society's Journal.

The table given contains the results in the case of seven hundred and sixty-four cows, and the following statements abridged from that paper, will exhibit some of the most important details:

First. It appears that the period of gestation varied from 220 to 313 days; or no less than 90 days. Lord Spencer was, however, unable to rear any calves produced under 242 days. All under 260 days and over 300, he thinks are decidedly premature, or irregular.

Second. Of 314 cows calved before the 284th day, and 310 after the 285th day, the average period of gestation must be considered as between 284 and 285 days; although the time stated in the work on cattle by the London Society, states it at 270 days.

Third. It appears, that omitting those considered as premature or irregular, the cows whose period of gestation did not exceed 286 days, produced 233 cow calves, and of bull calves 224 while from those whose period exceeded 286 days, the cow calves were only 90, and the number of bull calves was 152. This certainly gives some support to the opinion so prevalent among farmers, that when a cow exceeds the usual time, the produce will be a bull calf.

Fourth. There were 7 cases of twin cow calves; 5 cases of twin bull calves; and eleven cases of twin cow and bull calves. Earl Spencer has never had a case in which the sexes were different, in which the heifer was a breeding one; they have uniformly been what are termed *free martins.* The cattle of which the above record has been kept, are the pure Improved Short Horn Breed, one of the finest herds in Great Britain.—*Albany Cult.*

TAKING PORK TO MARKET.—Farmers are not sufficiently careful to let their pork get cold before putting it in their waggons to bring to market. Several lots have been brought in which were tainted merely from the animal heat—Were they to fasten the hogs open, by putting one stick across between the shoulders, and another between the kidneys, there would be no danger of their spoiling. Leave the sticks in till they are sold.

But the better way seems to us to be for the farmers in a settlement to unite and *drive* their hogs to market. If there be a hundred or more, it will cost less than to take the pork in waggons, besides having it in a more saleable condition. It cannot well be taken very far without getting more or less dirty; and then in cold weather it is frozen, which packers wish to avoid. We have inquired and find hogs will be butchered here, thoroughly cleaned, delivered anywhere in town, the fat taken from the entrails, and the whole given to the owner, for 18 cents each.

CULTIVATION OF TOBACCO.—A farmer near Lacon asks of the Illinois Gazette, the process of cultivating toocco. Will the editor please tell his correspondent that for $1 sent the Union Agriculturist, he will not only get the entire process of cultivating tobacco, but much other agricultural information besides.

The Rockford Pilot says that in Bloomingville precinct Winnebago co., *seventy five tons* has been raised the past season, worth there $1 per cwt amounting to $6 000 for that one precinct. The average crop was about one ton to the acre.

THE PROSPECTUS.—We send out with this No. our prospectus for the next volume, and would thank our friends to see they are put up in public places. It is the only way hundreds will have of learning there is such a paper as the Union Agriculturist.

THE VOLUNTEERS.—Those who have not yet sent in their returns should do it at once. The time fixed, in which returns were to be made, expired on the 20th instant.

OUR FALL WEATHER.—Heretofore residents of the West have been accustomed to boast of their delightful autumns. October is usually one of the pleasantest months in the year; and November, though it brings an occasional storm, seldom has with us the wintry associations connected with its approach, that are realized at the East as "the chill November blast." And we fear many a new comer is almost disheartened at finding a climate so different from what he anticipated, fearing all his other expectations may be disappointed in like manner. Of the nine autumns spent here, we have never before seen anything like the present.

AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY IN AGRICULTURE — Such is the heading of an article from the New York Evening Post, which has been going the rounds of the papers, and which we insert, not because we are converts to this new theory, that after all old mother Earth isn't of much account;" but because some of our readers would think it our duty to notice every such investigation.

"In the Phalange, a Fourier paper published at Paris, Sept. 8th, a novel discovery is described, which if true, will work a great change in an important department of agricultural labor. It is communicated to the Paris print, by Charles Pollard, and M. Bernard, who date their letter at Brest, August, 1841. It appears that while they had some of their friends, who farm their own estates, were engaged in conversation on the subject of agriculture, it was observed by one of them, that that branch of industry was suffering more from the want of capital and enterprise, than any other and that nothing was to be done without manure, which was every day becoming more scarce and expensive. This remark led to an inquiry into the properties of manure, and particularly as to what provision nature had made in those uncultivated regions, where there seems to be a vigorous and luxuriant growth, without artificial assistance.

"In observing nature unassisted, or unthwarted, rather by the hand of man, in vegetable reproduction, it is so found that when the seed is ripe it falls upon the ground, and then the plant which has produced it sheds its leaves, or falls itself upon it, in decay, and covers and protects it from the weather, until generation has commenced, and the young plant is able to grow up in health and strength, and full developement. In recommence the same routine of seeding and of reproduction.

"From this it follows that, in nature, every plant produces its own soil or manure, and that the earth only serves to bear the plant and not to aid or nourish it in vegetation. The nourishment of plants is thus supposed to be derived from *air* and *water*, *heat* and *light*, or electricity, in different proportions, adapted to the different varieties of vegetable nature."

With this general notion in their minds, and considering what to be, in present circumstances, one of the most important vegetable substances, they agreed to try experiments, and in October last, undertook the following operations.—

In a field which had been sown with rye, because the land was deemed too poor for wheat, a plat of twelve square yards, untilled and left without manure, was carefully strewed over with the grains of wheat, and wheaten straw was laid upon it closely and about one inch in thickness. In a garden also, which had been neglected several years, a few square yards of earth were trodden over, and the surface being made close and hard, some grains of wheat were scattered on the hardened surface, and a layer of straw one inch in depth, was carefully laid over it and left, as in the former case, to take its chance, without utterior attention. And in order to make doubt impossible concerning the mere secondary functions of mineral earth in vegetable reproduction, twenty grains of wheat were sown open the surface of a pane of glass and covered with some straw alone, as in the other case.

The germination of the seed was upon apparent end most healthy in developement. "The winter has been rigorous," say these correspondents, "for this part of the country, and the earth has sometimes been frozen in one solid mass to a depth of six inches in the garden where the wheat was sown, and this has happened several times during the winter, to the great injury of many plants, and even the entire destruction of some, while the spots protected by the straw were never thoroughly congealed, nor were the grains of wheat, though lying on the surface under the straw, at all affected by the cold. During spring excessive droughts prolonged, and several times repeated, have prevented vegetation on the common plan from flourishing in healthy progress, while our little spots of wheat have hardly felt the inconvenience of excessive dryness, for the earth protected by the straw has never been deprived entirely of moisture, and our blades of corn were flourishing, when all round was drooping and uncertain. To conclude, then, we have thoroughly succeeded in our practical experiment, and the wheat produced is of the finest quality. The straw was more than six feet high, and in the ears were 60, 60 and even 80 grains of wheat of full developement, the admiration of all who saw them, and particularly those which grew upon the pane of glass, and which were quite as healthy and as large as those which grew upon the common earth. It must be observed also that there was not the smallest particle of earth upon the glass, and that the plants were left entirely to themselves, without being watered or attended to in any way whatever from the time of sowing to the time of reaping.

The cause of this success they think, may be explained in the following manner:

"Straw being a bad conductor of heat, and a good conductor of electricity, maintains the root of the plant in a medium temperature, and prevents the earth from being deprived entirely of moisture. The moisture of the earth, or the substratum, being continual, facilitates the gradual and constant absorption of carbonic acid gas from the surrounding atmosphere, and hydrogen and carbon, the chief elements of nourishment to vegetables, are thus accomplished in regular supplies where they are constantly required, and pass into combination with oxygen from the roots up to the stems and branches of the plants to which they are assimilated, and the oxygen throws off in exhalation from the leaves. The straw decays but slowly, and thus furnishes its substance by degrees to the young plant in due progression and proportion, (such as the ciliquious ingredients, for instance, of the pod or capsule) so that the decomposition of the straw corresponds to the four phases of fermentation in progressing from the *saccherine* to the *alcoholic* the *acid* and the *putrid* states, analogous to those of *infancy*, *budding youth*, and *seeding* of the plant.

"We observe that our blades of wheat have but a very few roots, and those are short and hard, something like a bird's claw; and this agrees with the remarks of Mons. Raspail, who states that the most healthy plants in ordinary vegetation have the least exuberance of roots and fibres.

"Another important observation, also is, that weeds and parasitical vegetation are prevented by this method, for the straw chokes every other plant but that of its own seed. Many other interesting observations might be made on these experiments, but we refrain, at present, from obtruding on your readers; but if any of them wish for further information on this subject, we shall willingly afford them every facility. The importance of the general result will easily become apparent without further comment, and a revolution in the present modes of agricultural labor is a necessary consequence of this discovery. No tillage will now be required, nor any artificial stimulants in manure and other more or less expensive combinations with regard to soil and culture. In fact, it would be tedious to enumerate the various advantages that may result in practice from this casual experiment, and therefore, we proclaim it simply to the world that all may profit by it."

As this experiment can be easily tried, we hope some of our farmers will put it to the test, and communicate the result.

HOME LEAGUE.—In the Sept. No. we published the call for a Convention of the friends of Home Industry, to devise the best means to protect our manufacturing and agricultural interests. The Convention assembled in New York on the 15th Oct., twelve States and one Territory being represented, and adopted a resolution constituting itself "The Home League, for the promotion of American Industry, and Reciprocal Commerce." Several resolutions were adopted among which were the following, which will explain the plans and objects of the Home League.

Resolved, That the primary object of the Home League will be to digest and recommend a National Policy for the promotion of the general interest of Agriculture, Manufactures, Commerce and Finance, exercising a continuous influence for the benefit of the Union, independent of sectional prejudices, aloof from trammels, and free from vascillating and temporising expedients.

Resolved, That in the organization and proceedings of this league, no other influence is contemplated than such as will restore principles and arguments which may be approved by the people and sanctioned by Congressional enactments.

Resolved, That a policy which favors the augmentations of our exports, encourages home Labor in all its branches, according to the direction our citizens may prefer to give it, and regulates or restricts importations, so as to prevent, as much as possible, the balance of trade being against us, is best calculated to secure a stable revenue to the Government and promote the whole interests of the country.

Resolved, That the existing laws in regard to revenue and the present Tariff are not only defective in duties, but by the effect of the Compromise Act will soon become impractical; that the provisions of that act coming into operation in July next, will, by a change of valuation on imports, varying in different sections of the country, not only be unjust, if not unconstitutional, but by encouraging frauds and neglecting countervailing restrictions will sacrifice the honest enterprise, industry and pecuniary resources of the country.

Resolved, That in any adjustment of the Tariff for the purposes of Revenue due regard should be had for the protection of such articles as may render every portion of the country competent to supply its own wants from home resources in time of War as well as Peace.

Resolved, That if a revenue for the economical support of government is to be the measure of protective favor to our Manufactures and Mechanics, justice as well as policy demand that such a scale of duties be adopted as will not by fostering an increased consumption of imported fabrics, favor *foreign labor*, when by a higher scale, producing an equal revenue, our own industry may be aided without injury to any home interest.

Resolved, That the adequate protection of the Mechanical and Manufacturing does not conflict, but does essentially aid the Agricultural and Commercial industry of the country.

The following Constitution was adopted:

Whereas, The Agricultural, Commercial, Manufacturing and Financial interests of the people of the United States, may be promoted by the accumulation and diffusion of facts in relation to them, by means of an Association extending through and embracing all classes and departments of society, therefore the undersigned do adopt as follows:

THE CONSTITUTION.

Article 1st. This Association shall be denominated "The Home League for the protection of American labor, and the promotion of Reciprocal Commerce."

Art. 2. Any persons subscribing to this Constitution and paying into its treasury the sum of one dollar annually, or at one time the sum of five dollars, shall be a member of this League, and entitled to all its benefits and privileges.

Art. 3. The officers of the League shall be a President and four Vice Presidents, a corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Central Committee of 12 to be chosen annually, by the members as directed by the bye laws, and the Presidents of the State branches shall be ex-officio, Vice Presidents of the Home League.

Art. 4. In each State the League shall form a Central Association to promote the objects of the League, with auxiliary branches in the principal Towns and Counties, and at each annual meeting Delegates are to be appointed to attend at the annual meeting of the Home League.

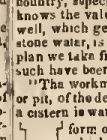
Art. 5. The stated annual meeting of the Association shall be in the city of New-York, during the Fair of the American Institute, when its officers and Central Committee shall be chosen by a majority of votes present.

Art. 6. Bye laws for the government of the League shall be enacted by the respective Associations for their own Government.

The following are the officers:—Gen. James Tallmadge of New-York, President; Gov. M. Dickerson of N. J., J. Brewster of Conn., Judge Harwood of Md., and Gen. Field of Florida, Vice Presidents; L. D. Chapin of N. J., M. Copeland, of Conn., and L. A. Sykes of N. J., Secretaries. Messrs. Blunt, Haven, and Travers of N. Y., and Kinney of N. J., were appointed a committee to prepare an address to the people of the U. S. To this Committee the President was added.

BUILDING CISTERNS.—Every housewife in this country, especially those living off from streams knows the value of soft water; and next to a well, which generally in the West gives limestone water, is a cistern needed. The following plan we take from the Peoria Press, which says such have been built there.

"The workmen proceed to dig a circular hole or pit, of the desired capacity, at the place where a cistern is wanted, and shape it after the usual form of an earthen pot, (a side view of which resembles the annexed figure,) which shape is deemed best adapted to give strength. Care should be taken to have the sides as regular and smooth as the ground will admit of. The plasterer comes next, to give it a coat of mortar made of hydraulic cement and clean sand, in proportion of about one of the former to two of the latter wet with water to a suitable consistency. This is plastered immediately against the sides of the pit, beginning at the bottom and extending upward and on the horizontal part of the offset to the perpendicular part. If the sides should be sand it may give some trouble to the plasterer, which an expert workman can readily overcome—and if any part should cave a little, a few broken bricks or stones may be put in to hold up the sand or caving earth till the first coat is on, which soon hardens and sustains the earth in its place.—When this coat is sufficiently dry," of which the workmen can judge, a second coat be added, and then a third, each about half an inch in thickness. These render the sides perfectly secure against the caving of the earth, forming a powerful stone pot or cistern which hardens and strengthens with age and proper use. The roofing or covering is lodged upon the offset, and is usually made of two inch plank, leaving a suitable hole, with a square box open at each end, inserted in the center where the water is to be drawn out. If the cistern is large, joists or other timbers are to be put across it to support the plank, and earth about a foot deep. Before throwing the earth upon the plank, their joints must be secured with cement against the admission of dirt. This is, without doubt, the cheapest way of building cisterns, and may be practised with success wherever they are wanted.—One barrel of cement is sufficient for a cistern that will hold 80 bbls. of water, and more where the earth can be smoothly dug down."



THE HONEY BEE. *Continued from page 74.*—While the hive remains without a Queen, swarming never takes place, no matter how crowded the hive may be. After the old Queen has gone off with the first swarm, which she invariably does, the young queens are permitted to leave their cells: to which they have hitherto been confined by the workers, and there detended by them from the attacks of the old Queen, whose instinct would lead her to destroy them. A succession of single combats then take place between the young Queens until only one is left alive, with whom the empire remains. As a further proof of the astonishing instinct by which they are guided, it has invariably been remarked, that in all these single combats between the Queens, they are never both destroyed—one or two other inserts her curved sting between the rings of the abdomen of her opponent, occasioning instant death.

The power possessed by the Queen, of multiplying her species, is amazing. It is computed that a single female will lay from 30,000 to 50,000 eggs, varying according to climate. The indeed point of the fecundation of the eggs seems to be now set at rest. Theories of all kinds have been advanced; some of them plausible—many absurd.

It will be unnecessary for me here to give all these different theories at length; suffice it that some assert that a sexual union takes place between the Queen and the Drone, within the hive, though they could only state the result of their observation to be an indistinct and transient junction—others could see nothing of this, but assert that the Queen is a hermaphrodite, having within herself the powers of both sexes; and proving, moreover, that on her being confined alone with two drones, she turned on them, on their approaching her, and killed them on the spot.—Swammerdam—and many believe with him—contends that the impregnation takes place from a certain *aura*, proceeding from the bodies of the males, which must needs be numerous, that it may have sufficient power. Many other such doctrines are advanced; the most plausible of all, is that of the eggs being first deposited in the cells by the Queen, and there impregnated by the drones ejecting the seminal fluid over it, as is commonly supposed to be the case in the spawn of frogs and of fishes. Some have even asserted that they have seen the drone in the act! But this is disputed by those whose close and continued observation enabled them to state, that it never does take place. And it is also disproved by the fact, that eggs are deposited by the Queen *after* the destruction of the drone, and are hatched *before* the existence of a single drone in the spring.

It seems to have been reserved for Huber to determine this disputed point. In one of his experiments he removed all the females from a number of the hives, giving to each a queen taken the moment she came to maturity. He then removed all the drones from one division of these hives, leaving them remain in the others. He then adapted to each hive a glass tube for an entrance, so small that no drone could pass through it, but large enough for the common bees—thus confining the queen alone with the neuters and her seraglio of males, in the one division; and with neuters alone in the other. To his surprise all the queens remained sterile! He continued his experiments, diversifying them in every possible manner, and proving at last that the queen bee was impregnated by an actual union of the sexes, as in most insects and in the larger animals; but that this never took place within the hive.

It is also clear, that this single intercourse with the male, taking place, as is supposed high in air, is sufficient for the fecundation of all the eggs she lays for at least two years, and in all probability during the term of her life.

When a swarm of bees takes possession of a hive, one body of the workers commence clearing it out, which they do thoroughly; whilst another body of them are abroad in the fields and woods, collecting the waxy substance, called *propolis*, which they use for cementing up all crevices in their new habitation. This substance, Huber believes to be the gum which exudes from the buds of the wild poplar.

This propolis adheres so strongly to the legs of the bees, that those that are loaded have to stand until the others tear it from their legs, and immediately apply it whilst still ductile.

The next object of their labors is to prepare the combs, for the reception of the eggs, upon which depends the future increase of the colony, and with which the queen is now pregnant. These combs are formed of *wax*, a different material from the propolis before spoken of. This wax is secreted by another set of bees, who remain inactively clustered together for this purpose, and are there fed with honey by those bees engaged in collecting it for them. When their crops are full, they remain for some time clustered together at the top of the hive, whilst the wax forms in thin scales under the rings of the abdomen, from which they are removed by the wax secretors themselves, or by those engaged in the formation of the cells.

(*To be Continued.*)

SMUT IN WHEAT.—A correspondent of the Peoria Press, alludes to the communication of Mr. Bradley, to the Maine Farmer, published on our 60th page, which he thinks decidedly erroneous, and gives the following extract from a work by Francis Bauer, Esq.:

"This disease is occasioned by the seeds of an extremely minute parasitic fungus, of the genus uredo, being absorbed by the roots of the germinating wheat grains and propelled by the rising sap long before the wheat blossoms, into the young germ or ovum, where the seeds of the fungi vegetate and rapidly multiply, thereby preventing the developement of the parts of fructification; in consequence no embryo is produced in an infected germ, which however, continues to grow as long as the grains do, and when the sound grains arrive at maturity, the infected ones are larger than, and easily distinguished from, the sound grains, by their darker green color and from the ova resuming the same shape and form which they had at the time when the infection took place. That the seeds of the uredo fœtida are the sole cause of that destructive disease in wheat, the smut or pepper brand, I think I have fully ascertained, by numerous experiments of inoculating even the finest and purest samples of seed wheat; and if that fact be admitted it becomes evident that the prevention of it can only be effected by cleansing the seed wheat so efficiently that every particle of the fungi and their seed be entirely removed from the grains, but as these extremely minute fungi, when once mixed with the seed wheat, insinuate themselves into the grooves at the backs, and the bristle at the tops of the grains, I think it almost impossible to dislodge them by the mere process of washing, &c. I am convinced that the best and surest remedy is to steep the seed wheat in properly prepared lime water, leaving it to soak at least 12 hours, and then to dry it well previous to sowing: but it will be found very difficult to kill the seeds of the fungi entirely, when the quantity of seed wheat is great, and consequently some infected plants might still be found in large fields."

The writer, (why does he not give his name with such a letter,) then goes on to say:

"And now, brother farmers, if your crop is not free of smut, blame yourselves, not Providence.—In preparing your seed wheat, the first thing to be attended to is to clear it perfectly from every injurious foreign substance.

"Sir John Sinclair enumerates as modes by which smut may be prevented, 1st, the use of pure cold water and lime. 2d, boiling water and lime. 3d, water impregnated with salt. 4th, brine pickle. 5th, lye of wood ashes. 6th, a solution of arsenic. 7th a solution of blue vitriol. It seems that almost any acrid, corrosive or poisonous application, will secure a clean crop, if properly used for that purpose. Mr. Arthur Young sowed, as an experiment, 14 beds with the same wheat

seed, which was black with smut. The first bed was sowed with the wheat without washing, and had 397 smutty kernels. A bed sowed with seed washed in clear water produced 325 smutty kernels—washed in lime water 43 do.—washed in a lye of wood ashes 31 do.—washed in salt mixture 28—steeped in lime water 4 hours, 3 do.—Again that which was steeped in lye, as before mentioned, 25 hours, had none.

"The way I have prepared my seed is as follows: (I have never been troubled with smut and sold in the years '36 and '37, a large quantity of spring wheat for seed, at $1.25 per bushel, to farmers who had quantities of smutty grain.) I make a brine strong enough to bear an egg, and wash my grain well, taking care to skim off the foul seed that floats; then drain the wheat out and spread it on a floor. While yet damp sift ashes over it sufficient to coat every grain. Then sow as soon as you please, and my word for it, you will not be troubled with smut."

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Union Agriculturist.

BERLIN, Ills. Nov. 12, 1841.

DITCHING AND HEDGING.

DEAR SIR—As the idea of suitably enclosing our prairies to render them fit for cultivation, appears to be a topic likely to produce a good deal of speculation and interest; and as various ways and means are almost daily planned out and exhibited to the world, as being the best plan and most economical as regards the consideration of timber; I, among the rest, have my plan, although not entirely original with myself; but having had some experience within the last year, I propose to write down that experience; and should you think it advisable, you can publish it or not as you think best.

In the first place then, I think that *Providence* could never have created a section of country, and better adapted it to the wants of the Farmer than is this Western Prairie country; unless he had built houses and fenced farms. It certainly is no longer a question to be asked: can we get along with so little timber? The matter is settled with me; and I think any person looking at the same state of facts, will give up the point at once. Had I good timber within two miles of my prairie, I say I would never haul rails to make a farm as long as I could make a fence so much easier and cheaper by

Hedging and Ditching.—I enclosed last spring 60 acres with a ditch and embankment which promises well so far; and for cheapness, I will turn it against any other mode that can be devised. I commenced work with three hands about the middle of April; all of us perfectly fresh hands—had never done any thing of the like nor seen it done. I soon found that we could make our four rods a day to each hand easy, (twelve rods per day in all) and we put it up in good style—ditch four feet at top, one feet at bottom and three and a half feet deep, and eighteen inches on top; well sodded up on both sides with sod cut to fit. We continued on at that rate until we finished, (as having tasked ourselves at 12 rods per day at the start;) but soon found we could do it long before night. Indeed I believe I can make six rods in a day of the above description. The hands cost me 50 cents per day, so you can readily perceive what my fence cost me.

To Make the Ditch.—My plan of operating was this; I set two rows of stakes four feet apart, each, to make the different lines of the ditch. Six and a half feet from the inside row of stakes, I set a third row to make the inside of the berme for the embankment, leaving about nine inches on each side not to be covered by the embankment. I then take my sod cutter, (an instrument by the way of my own invention, and which resembles the old fashioned bar-shire prairie plough with no mould board and with a good cutter,) and with a good team this is made to pass up the out side line of the ditch, cutting the sod off at the edge and bottom; and in this way cut all the sod of the top of the ditch four feet wide; and also on the inside of the third row of stakes, I cut four feet of sod in like manner, leaving them from six to ten inches wide, and from five to eight inches thick, and left lying precisely as it grew. I then pass along with a spade, and cut the sod off the other way, in blocks of from 10 to 15 inches in length. The sod is then easily removed off from the top of the ditch. You will then see we have our ditch already 3 inches deep, in only removing the sod. I place the inside row of sod, on the outside line of the embankment, 9 inches from the inside line of the ditch, flat down with the grass side up, and the same also on the other side of the embankment. I then throw out the dirt from the ditch, putting up the sod on either side, (grass side out,) as the embankment is filled. When done it makes a very pretty fence; and one too which stock will dread to approach. I think may be, it would be better to make the ditch five feet at top and four feet deep; and then all would be safe. This fence I am sure will under ordinary circumstances, last some 8 or 10 years and turn stock; in which time the very best kind of a Hedge may be raised. And as to the

Material for Hedging, the matter is settled with me. I have sought all the information on the subject that was come-atable for the last twelve months, and have come to the conclusion that the thorn, (of which our native thorn is the best,) is not only the safest, but best of hedging materials. One says the Cotton wood will do; another the Pear; another the Honey Locust; and the fourth says black Waluut or black Locust. But they are all Forest trees, and must be dealt with as such. I have no doubt from my own experience, as well as the experience of others, that something very much like a Hedge might be grown from any of the above named varieties; but never to make a perfect Hedge. The fact is, if a failure should happen with the forest tree, the thing is out; but with the Thorn there is no question at all at all; and that we have the very best varieties in our country, and plenty too, no practical Hedgers attempt to doubt. I say then we will make a good ditch and embankment, and commence forthwith with the Hedge; and in a short time we have the best and prettiest fence, and most durable of any in the world; *(no mistake)* and it it does take twn years more to make a good Thorn Hedge, I say it will be a saving eventually, and ten to one in favor of the Thorn.

I am making some experiments with Haws gathered this fall for the purpose of Hedging; and if I succeed, I shall be glad to find any one who will be willing to profit by my experience. I have on hand several communications from practical Hedgers, which, should you think would be of any advantage to the cause, are at your disposal; some of which I know would satisfy the enquires of Mr. Archer of Missouri.

I am somewhat concerned for fear that I have already tired your patience with this letter; if so read the less of it, and the writer will ever pray that you may prosper and go ahead; and never let it be told in the streets of Askalon that the Union Agriculturist died for want of patronage; so here is my dollar for the cause, and let my subscription commence with the present volume.

Before closing this letter, I wish to make one calculation in respect to my arrangement in farming, viz:

For cash paid for 50 acres of Prairie @2 per acre.	100 00
" 360 rods fence at 18 per rod,	60 00
" Breaking at $2,00 per acre,	100 00
" Corn and planting,	12 00
	$272 00

When in ordinary seasons it will produce a good half crop, say 25 bbls. per acre and would be worth $1 per bbl. Pumpkins &c. that can be raised will pay the gathering of the corn which would be $250 00

	250 00
Covering the whole expense within	22 00

I think the calculation will prove good; if not speak it out—it will with me.

I am sir your ob't serv't,
S. WOOD.

JOHN S. WRIGHT, Esq.

P. S. The above calculation does not refer particularly to my own experiment, as regards the quantity of land, nor the cost of ditching; but I like small farms and plenty of them; and my object is to show that any man that can buy him a 40 acre lot, can have a farm of his own. The calculation above for ditching is more by four or five cents per rod than mine cost me.

S. W.

NOTE.—We shall be greatly obliged to Mr. Wood for his correspondence upon hedging; and if any other readers have letters of the kind we shall be much obliged to them to forward them for publication.

Perhaps this embankment would be sufficiently large to resist drought, but one of the size of Mr. Marsh's noticed in the last number, would be more certain of success.

For the Union Agriculturist

INDEX TO AN AGRICULTURAL PAPER

SIR—One of the greatest drawbacks from the usefulness of the many Agricultural papers which I have read, is the want of *a sufficient and complete index*. Such an index cannot be made in a hurry. It is not sufficient that it shall refer to every separate essay, paragraph, or communication, but it ought to refer to every *subject* treated of.

For instance—take the communication of A. Churchill, in the August No. of your paper, page 58. An *ordinary* index would merely refer to "Weeds, &c." or to "A. Churchill's letter;" but this would be entirely insufficient.—That letter treats of the five following matters, each of which should be referred to in the index:

Lucern, weeds resembling it.
Pea vine, or wild bean, excellent food for stock.
Onions, how to preserve through the winter.
Worms, not destroyers of bees.
Gargat, or diseased udder in cows, cure for.
A farmer has an animal afflicted with some disease of which a method of cure has been given in his agricultural paper; but he does not recollect the particulars, and desires to refresh his memory. He therefore examines the indexes of his several volumes; but frequently seeks in vain, for the want of a *sufficient* index.

In connexion with a complete index, much benefit is derived from sufficient *heading* or *title* to each article. I cannot better illustrate my meaning than by referring you to the communications of A. Churchill already mentioned, that was headed "*Weeds, &c*"—a title utterly insufficient to give any idea of the contents of the letter.

As the Union Agriculturist is probably destined to be the leading agricultural journal of the far West, I trust it will be furnished with the very best, but indispensable appendage, a good index.

C.

NOTE.—Suggestions like the above from Hon. Gen. Churchill of Madison co., manifest a deep interest in the success and usefulness of the Union Agriculturist, and are most gratefully received. We insert the letter for the benefit of other papers, and hope they will profit by the suggestions. As for ourself, we have found out by experience the difficulty of making a complete index; having previous to the reception of Mr. C.'s letter been up by five o'clock for several mornings working hard at this very subject; and as yet have only finished the first four Nos. When completed there will be little difficulty in referring to any article.

Mr. A. Churchill's communication, to which reference is made, was published during our absence, and not prepared as it should have been.

We have endeavored to give significant side heads.

For the Union Agriculturist.

TOWN 40, RANGE 12 E. Nov. 7, 1841.

SUGAR BEET AND MANURING, GREAT YIELD OF CORN.

That it is the duty of every Farmer to communicate the results of his experience, no one can deny; and especially on controverted points of husbandry. The propriety of raising Sugar Beets for food for stock has been questioned by many; but as others asserted that they were an excellent article, I was induced last spring to plant about one fourth of an acre, by way of satisfying myself who was right on the subject. The seed which I procured was old and did not germinate well; consequently not half the ground was occupied. From this I harvested one hundred and fifty bushels of very large beets. I find them superior to the rutabaga for fatting milch cows—They ioduce a large flow of rich milk, which makes a superior article of butter. I have been in the habit of raising rutabagas for my cows; but they appear to be a very uncertain crop in our climate, suffering much from drouth. The last season I did not get 300 bushels from two acres. The land was in first rate order, and not a weed allowed to grow on it. That more bushels of beets can be grown on the same land than rutabagas, I am confident; in the most favorable seasons for the latter, without running the risk in dry seasons of losing the crop by drought. Hogs are very fond of the beets; but whether they could be fed them with profit I cannot say; but with a small quantity of corn, I think they would be a good and cheap article for wintering store hogs.

Manuring.—One word on the use of Manures, and I have done. Last spring I manured a piece of raw prairie, and broke up the 5th of May, and harrowed and the 10th—planted 28 rods of it to corn. The yield was twenty bushels of first rate corn, equal to 130 bushels per acre. This is rather a poser to those who think manura on our rich prairie soils useless. Admit that they are rich, and no one date deny this, yet they require the suits of the manure to make them produce their maximum of vegetation. Brother farmers, now is the time to haul out your manure. In the spring you will be too busy; for I am positive most of you have neglected to do your fall plowing. In that case it will be the most notable thing in the world that you will be behind hand with your spring's work.

M. L. DUNLOP.

NOTE.—Had not Mr. D. marked his initials on the outside of his letter, which upon referring to our subscription book we *guessed* to stand for M. L. Dunlop, we should have had to leave the communication signed "D." as he sent it. He can't say to us "K. K."

Illinois has thus far produced the two greatest yields of corn that we have seen published. And in both experiments the cause is to be attributed to that wonderful thing—manure. If our readers still have any lingering doubts as to the value of this for their vegetables, they may perhaps be dispelled by referring again to the certificates procured by Mr. Putnam, published on our 72d page.

For the Union Agriculturist.

CONFINING STOCK.

MR. WRIGHT—Seeing so much written in your paper on the subject of fencing, I have been surprised to find nothing on the subject of preventing animals from running at large; and thereby, in a great degree, obviating its necessity. Instead of being startled from his propriety by so novel a proposition, let each farmer who reads this ask himself, if it would not have been more for his interest, when he commenced his farm, to have provided enclosures for his stock, and had all the rest of his land for cultivation, without the trouble of fencing; than to have pursued the course he has done. The answer in every instance, where the raising of stock has not been the principal object, must be in the affirmative, and even when that is the principal object of attention, the waste of time in looking after it, and the loss by escapes and accidents, will prevent a prudent farmer from allowing his stock to range at large, the moment his capital will allow him to provide enclosures.

If this latter proposition be true, the only argument in favor of the present policy is annihilated; and the overwhelming importance of being enabled to dispense with from four fifths to nine tenths of the fencing now, required, at least in the outset, stands out in bold relief. How changed would be the condition of the farmer with small means, coming into one of our rich prairies, should the proposed policy be adopted! He has, perhaps, a pair of horses or oxen, a few farming tools, and a stout pair of arms. With these and provisions for a few months, and without any thing else if he have no fences to make, he could in one year be beyond the reach of want, and on the road to wealth. His first crop would furnish him with necessaries, and provide the means of paying for his land as soon as it would be necessary, under the present beneficent pre-emption law. But what hope would there be for such a man if he had to fence his fields before he raised a crop.

The advantage to a farmer already under way, of being enabled to convert ten, fifty or one hundred acres of the adjoining prairie into a wheat field, promising to yield thirty or forty bushels to the acre, with no other expense than that of turning over the sod, I need not pourtray.

Let not this matter be sneered at as a chimera because it is new. This whole prairie region was brought to the notice of civilized man but as yesterday. The resources of a country so novel in its features, it is fair to presume, are capable of being developed by systems of operation different from those pursued in countries entirely different in their natural situation. Many, very many, of the peculiar advantages of the prairie region, have, in my opinion, been lost by entering blindly to the system pursued in settling timbered regions of country; and the day when a statute law shall be enacted and sustained by public opinion, prohibiting entirely all domestic animals from running at large in Illinois, will be one of the most important in her history.

JOHN CLOVER.

NOTE—This subject of confining stock, was alluded to by Dr. Thomas in the April No., on page 26. The plan seems to be an excellent one. It is one that prevails to a considerable extent even in New England, where the expense of fencing (remember their "hard-heads") is little compared with what it is on our large prairies. Will not the farmers in different sections speak out about this matter? and when the right time comes, petitions upon the subject may be circulated for signatures.

For the Union Agriculturist.

GREAT DIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL PURSUITS.

Owing to the more immediate and imperative wants of a new country, and the active demand caused by the influx of emigrants, the attention of our farmers has hitherto been principaly directed to the staple products of the middle States, such as Wheat, Beef, Pork, &c. Much of their attention will doubtless still be given to these articles, constituting as they do the prime necessaries of life. But we think the time has now arrived when more attention should be given to some of the minor branches of agriculture in order to prevent the embarrassments which follow the want of demand, and consequent extreme depression in price of these great staples. These articles are now much below their general average value, and in a country so extensive and fertile as ours, these depressions may be expected frequently to occur.

At such times it is certainly desirable that our farmers should devote a portion of their time to the sowing of other products, which will better repay the care and labor bestowed upon them. Many of the minor products of the Northern and Middle States, bear a very high price, when their great staples are very much depressed. As an instance of this, Hops are now worth from forty to fifty cents per lb.; and a single acre devoted to their cultivation this year would probably produce more nett profit than a hundred acres devoted to ordinary crops. This to be sure is an extreme instance, Hops being uncommonly high this year, but our farmers would do well to be prepared to take advantage of such fortunate contingen-

cies. To the producing of Butter, Cheese, Wool, Clover seed, Hops, Beans &c. our soil and climate are well adopted. And, even Tobacco we think might be cultivated to advantage. These articles will all bear transportation to distant markets, and should our farmers devote a portion of their time to their production, they would in times like the present well reward the attention bestowed upon them, and add very considerably to the amount of our exports. W. L. N.

NOTE.—The above was written for the November No. of the first series; but it will answer for this year equally well except in the price of hops. It has been found that tobacco can be cultivated with advantage.

For the Union Agriculturist.

AVON, KANE Co., 15th Nov. 1841.

THE PAPER—ADVERTISING WITHOUT PAYING, &c.

Dr. Sir—It is with pleasure that I renew my scribblings, as the evenings from their length are becoming tedious. In this way I can wear off an hour or two pleasantly to myself, if not to others. But what shall I write about?—Though no critic, let us have a chapter on your paper and its contents.

The Union Agriculturist not very profitable. In the first case I believe it is a hard concern for you in a pecuniary point; secondly the delay in the publication was a damage to it; though it must have satisfied you that the paper was approved, as every one seriously felt and anxiously expressed their desire for its re-appearance. Thirdly as to its contents—all very well, except so far as I am concerned, and one or two other exceptions, to wit:—Dr. Thomas' latin; and a disposition on the part of some of your communicants to advertise their stock, without, as I suspect, paying you the requisite fee.

Stock to be Advertised.—We are all glad to hear of improved stock or any other improvement; but at the same time, we wish to have the paper sustained. And we know that it cannot be without the *needful*. Gentlemen, let us hear from your stock by way of an ADVERTISEMENT.

Subjects for farmers to write upon.—Brother farmers, let me urge you to prepare reports of such experiments and observations as you may have made during the past year, on all subjects; especially those that relate to our particular calling;—seeds; crops; roots, their value; fruit trees; shrubs; gardening; ploughing; ploughs and tools of all kinds; labor of men and teams; cheapest and best mode of tending and harvesting the different crops; *facts* and speculations on earth and hedge fences, &c. &c. in *two words*, for I expect that you will ALL write something—do not disappoint me. And further, it is the undoubted *right* of Mr. *Wright* that you *write* for the Agriculturist: now let us have it as I have all the *rights* on my side of the question but one; and that *right* I expect you will claim by performing the *rite of writing* a short article for the January No. of this paper. A. CHURCHILL.

N. B.—If any one is disposed to grumble at the latter part of this communication he would find fault with that that is *all right*.

NOTE.—Mr. C's surmise as to the pecuniary profits of the paper we find to our sorrow too true. Aside from giving in a year's services, to be *obliged* to advance several hundred dollars or let the paper stop, did not enter into our calculations when we took hold of it a year since. At that time we took the editorial charge merely to get the paper started, without the remotest idea of continuing in the work for more than one year. The fact is we expected after the novelty of the thing was a little worn off, the editorial labors would be more a *duty* than a *pleasure*; and then it would be high time to give place to another. But the effect is far otherwise. Conducting an agricultural paper is a work not so soon to be wearied with. The interest increases from day to day; with the discovery of each valuable improvement; with every new view of the importance of the work we are engaged in—*agricultural improvement*. And we have concluded, with the consent of the U. A. S., to remain in charge of the paper another year. But in some way hereafter we shall expect to have our necessary expenses defrayed, aside from the expenses of publication.

There has not been much advertising in the way spoken of by Mr. C.; though our columns show some. An extensive advertising patronage would enable the Society to enlarge the paper without difficulty.

Mr. G. having shown conclusively, the right of the matter in furnishing original articles, we hope every farmer will ask himself seriously, am I doing *right*?

For the Union Agriculturist.

BLACKBERRY, Kane Co. Nov. 5, 1841.

SOD FENCES—HEDGING, &c.

MR. EDITOR—As you seem to lack original matter in your last number, just come to hand; I thought a few observations on the above subjects would not be unacceptable to you at this time. My friend Churchill and others, have at various times commented in your journal on the advantages of a good Sod Fence; the best manner of making it; the most proper timber to plant on it; the width and depth of the ditch &c. But I think in most cases, the most important points in relation to durability and protection of the structure, are often overlooked. In my experience of sod fences, and I have had opportunities in the United States and Canada to be more than a common observer. I have noticed that when a person has a fence put up without reference to the time of the year of building it, and without taking any means to protect and preserve it, it will not answer even for an apology for a fence. But this is only done by inexperienced persons, and sometimes the result of indolence. When such a fence, I say, is put up for a permanent fence, and no means are taken to prevent its being destroyed by hogs, sheep or cattle, it is worse than no fence at all; as time and labor will be lost. The owner of such fences will exclaim, no more of your Sod Fences for me. But, sir, let him only proceed in that way which science and system dictates, he will not only add infinitely to the picture and beauty of his farm and the country—but have a fence more durable than any other material that can be procured in this country. The counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, Hertfordshire, &c. England, still abundantly prove this fact; the country here being similar, only soil richer, and the beautiful hedges lacking.

Time of building Sod Fences.—The experience we have acquired here from breaking prairie, teaches us that early in the spring or late to the fall is the best time to build sod fences; as the grass roots are not so apt to die. It is important to have the ditch deep, say four feet deep by three wide; cattle are not so apt to injure it. The next important point should be, to select the best kinds of timber to plant on it, roots or seeds. If roots, which I think are best, the time the fence is made is best; not exceeding eighteen inches apart. It is important that grass seeds should be sown on it as early as possible. Blue grass I consider best.

Protecting the fence.—But the most important point to attend to, is to secure or protect it from that inevitable destruction which awaits it, unless in very retired locations, by hogs, sheep, cattle, and not less in some cases by children and dogs, &c. I have seen many plans adopted to effect this object. The Norfolk plan is to cut the grown White-Thorn about three feet long, and make a place to receive them with the spade on the top of the new fence. I have seen them set so close that a Rabbit could not get through. In most cases, when the protecting part of the fence would die rotten and destroyed, the new growth would take care of itself; but I have known this process repeated. I believe the best plan here is to prepare posts to receive two flat rails and fix them permanently at the time the fence is made. I have seen some made in this way here; one in particular I noticed at the Post Grove in De Kalb county. The young growth of timber was lacking, but the tame grass was luxuriant on it; and the post and two flat rails with good ditch, made it a permanent fence to appearance, so long as the posts and rails lasted. That a

Good hedge and ditch fence can be made here, I am entirely confident; though it is a slow process here as elsewhere. But the right course must be adopted at the onset, or a failure is the consequence. We should by no means despair at our not having the white Thorn seed. It is not exclusively used for hedging in England, though it is the most common. The maple, crab-apple, black-thorn, ash, elm, &c, are used promiscuously. A barrel of white-thorn seeds were procured in England, at much expense, for a person in this place, and consigned to Grinnell & Co. New York, by them sent to the public store. But by the unaccountable inattention or inadvertance of the party who was to receive them here, they were there sold for a few shillings.—Many letters have passed, but no trace can be found of the purchaser. I have very much regretted this circumstance, as we could have fairly tested the Thorn in our soil and climate.

My observations have already extended further than I intended; and as your readers most of them like short stories best I conclude.

Your obliged,
WM. B. WEST.

Query—As Morus Multicaulis will propagate by cuttings, how would it answer for fencing?

P. S.—I intended in this communication to have commented some on the best breed of Hogs. I have something in reserve on this subject. I do not believe in mush and milk diet for this animal altogether—but will accord my opinion to my friend Gilbert as to what he experienced on his journey down South; that the best hogs and pigs invariably are to be found where the *smartest chance* of corn cobs abound recently stripped. I do not intend to disparage the premium Hogs at our late Fair. If they had mush and milk all the time, the return is ample.

NOTE.—The trials with the English White-Thorn or Hawthorn, indicate that we must look to some other material for a substantial hedge; and we do hope every farmer who can try experiments with native trees and shrubs will do it without fail and communicate the results.

For the Union Agriculturist.

RIDGE PRAIRIE, Madison Co. Ill.
Nov. 17, 1841.

A NEW HOLIDAY PRESENT.

Dear Sir—It is no easy matter, in these hard times, to induce a farmer to exchange a dollar for an agricultural paper: yet the circulation of your paper could be increased if those who feel disposed to make holiday presents to their young friends, would select the Union Agriculturist as a gift, which will be long remembered and duly appreciated. With this view I send you a dollar for the 1st volume to be sent to a nephew of mine. Please direct the work to George Churchill, Galesburg, Knox Co. Ill.

Truly yours,
GEORGE CHURCHILL.

NOTE.—This is a way of increasing the circulation of our paper, which had never occurred to us, and we are under many obligations to Mr. C. for proposing it. How much better would it be, for those wishing to make presents to their young friends, to give them something of *real* value, than such worthless things as are frequently selected! We shall expect many friends of the Union Agriculturist will imitate Mr. C.'s praiseworthy example. Are there not many who would like to make presents to Eastern friends? And what more likely to be interesting to them, than a paper like this, giving an correct an idea of the improvements in the West? We will enclose with the paper a note saying from whom it is sent, &c.

For the Union Agriculturist.

JULIET, Will Co., Nov. 13, 1841.

MANAGEMENT OF STUD COLTS.

MR. WRIGHT—In your June number I observe on inquiry by a correspondent from Kendall county, concerning the best manner of breaking Stud Colts. Without pretending to any superior skill in the matter, I give you the result of my own experience with animals of that kind, with which I have had something to do in my earlier years. My method was to leave the colt with the dam until the season arrived for stabling. I then put a halter upon the colt, assigning him to the same stall with the dam. When water was needed one led the mare, and some careful man the colt, I say, *man* because his strength is sufficient to easily control a colt of that age. Some earnest efforts on the part of the colt to free himself from the restraint of the halter will doubtless at first be made; but the struggle will be a short one; and always if made in the direction of the dam. I have never known a case when, at the third time, one hand could not comfortably manage both dam and colt, leading them with the same ease as a span of well trained horses. The advantage of standing them together in the stable is enjoyed by both dam and colt. They do not pine for each others company; but seem as fully and quietly to enjoy themselves as when at large together in the field. To supply the lack of nutriment which was wont to be received from the dam, feed with wheat bran mixed with a small quantity of shorts, which the colt soon learns to join the mother in partaking of. This I daily practice until fresh feed appears in the spring; always treating the young animal as an esteemed friend and acquaintance, rather than as an inferior and servant. This winter's treatment lays the foundation of an intercourse between owner and horse in a spirit of kindness on the one part, and docility and friendship on the other, that is never lost sight of in all after years by the animal.

Breaking.—When the colt has attained the proper age for breaking, I put a circingle firmly round him, bringing back the reins of the bridle and fastening each side firmly nearly down to the point of the breast, drawing them so taught as to curb the nose to a proper position for graceful appearance; then add a pair of lines passing through loops upon the back so as to pre-serve them from falling down and becoming entangled with his feet. From the firm position of the bridle, he easily feels, and as easily yields to the impulse of the line; and begins immediately to obey it. In this way some patient judicious person will drive him until he has become somewhat fatigued; when he is to be returned to the stable. In two or three times driving in this way, (and you may add the harness the second time,) he becomes accustomed to the bit, learns to obey the rein readily; and may be put into a cutter, or by the side of another in a sleigh without further trouble.

I have for years trained all of my young for use in this way, in which a two fold advantage is gained. By stabling a colt the two first winters of his life, a larger growth and earlier maturity is attained; and an intimate and friendly acquaintance commenced between the owner and the animal, that can always be used to the advantage of the former. A stud thus trained to obedience, I have worked as a team horse throughout the year, save a few months embracing the last of spring and first of the summer months, without any extra trouble, or care, save always making him surely fast in the stable. S. W.

NOTE.—We are utterly at a loss to whom to attribute the above excellent communication. Transpose the initials and we could then make out Gol. Wm. Smith, which we should judge to be correct.

For the Union Agriculturist.

LA SALLE, 5th Nov. 1841.

DURHAM BULL DAVY CROCKETT.

JOHN S. WRIGHT, Esq.—According to a resolution passed at the late Fair I send you the Pedigree of my Durham Bull shown at Naperville, as given by Gen. Thornton the raiser, together with Mr. Gooding's certificate, and I trust that you will see that the said resolution is carried into effect, by calling on all to whom premiums are awarded for the pedigree of such animals as were shown at the Fair and received premiums.

"The red roan Bull Davy Crockett, sold by me to William Gooding Esq. of Will Co., Ills, was got by the celebrated thorough bred Durham Suwerro, raised by Gen. James Goward of Bourbon Co., Ky., and by him sold to William Hume Esq. of the same county and state.—Davy Crocket was raised by me, calved in the early part of June 1836. His dam I purchased of Mr. Hume, before mentioned, while she was in calf by Suwarrow, as certified and warranted by the seller. She was by the distinguished bull Frederick, owned by the same gentleman, out of a favorite cow of the Durham and Patton stock. Fredrick was long celebrated for being one of the best breeders in the State of Kentucky. His sire was Sampson, he by the imported San Martin, and he by the distinguished Bull Exchange, of England. As near as I can count up the blood of Davy Crockett, he is seven eighths Durham, one sixteenth Long Horn and the remaining sixteenth of the first Kentucky importation of English cattle called the Patton Stock."

Signed W. F. THORNTON.

Lockport, 21 Aug. 1839.

This certifies that I have this day sold Davy Crockett, for which the foregoing pedigree is given by Gen. Thornton, to Mr. Isaac Hardy of La Salle county. Signed WM. GOODING.

Lockport, April 20th. 1841.

I remain respectfully yours,
ISAAC HARDY.

P. S.—I have five one year old Bulls from Davy Crockett by common cows, which are fine specimens of the half breed and go to show the great improvement that may be made in our common stock by a cross with Durhams.—Their dams were all cows distinguished as good Milkers. They will be for sale next spring. I. H.

NOTE.—With the exception of Mr. H's statements, the pedigrees of the animals exhibited at the late Fair, were given in the last No.

PEDIGREES OF STOCK

Belonging to Hon J. N. Brown, of Sangamon co.

COWS AND HEIFERS, *continued from page* 39.

No. 11. *Clara*—deep red, calved April 19th, 1837, by Accident, out of Peg; she by Sampson, out of Clara, both by Accommodation; sold to L. Levering of Springfield, for $130.

No 12. *Miss Bowers*—red with roan sides, calved 15th April, 1838, by Accident; dam Beauty, see No. 5.

No. 13 *George Ann*—red with roan face, calved 25th April, 1838, by Accident; dam Cleopatra, see No. 8.

No. 14. *Rose*—red with some white, calved July 17th, 1838, by Kentucky; dam Laura, see No. 9; Kentucky by Accident; dam Rose, by a bull owned by William Lamme of Harrison co, Kentucky; dam by a bull of Hutchcraft's by San Martin; g. d. by Tecumseh; g. gr. d. by sama.

No. 15 *Lucretia*—red, calved March 4th, 1839, by Accident; dam Lucinda, by Accommodation.

No. 16. *White Stockings*—spotted red and white, calved March 30th, 1839, by Rover, dam Margaret, see No. 6 Rover is the property of John and Jacob Williams, of this county, and was bred by Thomas Weddle, of East Bloomfield, New York, and sold by him as an imported Durham short horn bull.

No. 17. *Roena*—speckled, calved April 2d, 1839, by Rover; dam Beauty, see No 5.

No. 18. *Virginia*—roan, calved 23d of July, 1839, by Triumph, dam Paolina, see No 10 for the pedigree of Triumph; see bull's, No. 2.

No. 19. *Lady Warren*—roan, calved September 2d, 1839, by Triumph; dam Pink, see No. 7.

No. 20. *Nameless*—roan, calved March 1st, 1840 by Triumph; dam Margaret, see No. 6.

No. 21. *White*—with speckled neck, calved June 1st, 1840, by Triumph, dam Cleopatra, see No. 8.

No. 22 *Lady Grace*—red, calved July, 1840, by Reform; dam Lucretia, see No. 15. Reform, by Spy, out of Helen Eyre, see No 1; Spy, by Pioneer, out of Sally—for the pedigree of Pioneer, see bull's, No. 1; Sally, by Accommodation—for the pedigree of Accommodation, see Helen Eyre, No. 1; out of a cow by the imported bull San Martin; gr. d. by the imported bull

Bright; g. gr. dam by the thorough bred bull Hazzard, who was by Miller's imported bull, and out of his imported cow; her g. gr. gr. dam a Patton cow.

No. 23. *Duchess*—roan, calved December 4th, 1840, by Santa Anna; dam Miss Bowers, see No. 12; Santa Anna, by Munteauma; dam imported by Col. Shepherd, at Baltimore, bred by Mr. Phillips of Durham co., England; she was got by Monarch, her dam by Dandy; a letter from Col. Shepperd says she was of Charles Colling's stock.

No. 24. *Anna Fisk*—roan, calved January 1st, 1841, by Santa Anna, see No. 23; dam Lucinda, by Accommodation; see No. 1.

No. 25. *Desdemona*—roan, calved January 6th, 1841, by Santa Anna; dam Pink, see No. 7.

No. 26. *Tulip*—roan, calved January 14th, 1841, by Santa Anna; dam Beauty, see No 5.

No. 27. *Lady Lovering*—red with roan flanks, calved January 8th, 1840, by Santa Anna; dam Helen Eyre, see No. 4; for the pedigree of Santa Anna, see No 23.

No 28. *Sophia*—roan, calved January 24th, 1841, by Santa Anna; dam by Accident.

No. 29 *Betsy*—roan, calved February 22d, 1841, by Santa Anna; dam Margaret, see No 6

No. 30 *Angora*—red and white, calved March 26th, 1841, by Triumph; dam George Ann, see No. 13—for the pedigree of Triumph, see bulls, No. 2.

(To be continued.)

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

CURING HAMS.—A correspondent of the Farmers' Cabinet gives the following method of preserving hams:

"I lure my barrel over a pan or kettle in which I burn hard wood for seven or eight days; keeping a little water on the head of the barrel, to prevent it from drying. I then pack two hundred weight of ham in my barrel, prepare a pickle, by putting six gallons of water in a boiler, with twelve pounds of salt, twelve ounces of saltpetre, and two quarts of molasses. This I stir sufficiently to dissolve the salt, &c., and let boil and skim it. I then let it cool and pour it on my ham, and in one week I have smoked ham, very tender, of an excellent flavor, and well smoked."

SAUSAGES.—We prepare our sausage meat in the usual way. Then instead of putting the meat in skins, prepared from hog's entrails, we make bags of white clean cotton or linen cloth, as large, say as a man's arm, larger or smaller, as may suit, and of convenient length, say about a foot long, and put the sausage meat in these bags, and hang them up to dry. In this way, we save much labor in preparing the skins, and considerable in cooking: we slip off the bag from so much as is needed, and cut the sausage into slices of sufficient thickness for cooking. I much prefer sausages put in bags in these put in skins, as they keep more moist. Others, for the same reason, dislike them.—*Selected.*

TO HAVE MINCE PIES AND THEM READY AT YOUR MEAT by boiling and chopping as much as it were for immediate use—mix it with a suitable portion of suet, spice and salt; then put it in an earthern pot, pound it down with a pestle, and then cover it with the best of molasses; keep it where it will not freeze, and it will be fit for use any time. My wife has adopted the above course for four or five years past with perfect success; so that we have had mince pies made from meat killed in December as constant in July following as in January, and quite as acceptable.—*Maine Farmer.*

FATTENING POULTRY.—An experiment has lately been tried of feeding geese with turnips, cut very fine and put into a trough with water. The effect was, that 6 geese, weighing only 9 lbs each when shut, actually weighed 20 lbs. each, after about three weeks feeding with this food alone.

Malt is an excellent food for geese and turkeys. Grains are preferred for the sake of economy, but will not fatten so fast.

Oats ground into meal and mixed with a little molasses and water; barley meal mixed with sweet milk; and boiled oats mixed with malt, are all excellent for fattening poultry, to fatness being had to time, expense, and quality of flesh.

Corn, before being fed to fowls, should always be crushed and soaked in water, or boiled. It will thus go much further and digest easier. Hens will often lay in winter, when fed in this manner, especially if well sheltered.—*New Gen. Farmer.*

HOW TO ROT IRISH POTATOES.—Good and indifferent potatoes depend very much upon the manner in which they are prepared for the table. Some cooks always have heavy, hard, watery potatoes; while others for the most part, have them dry, mealy and excellent. This difference depends, generally, upon the difference of cooking. The first cook puts the potatoes just to cold water, warms them through by a slow fire, and cools them as slowly; while the other puts them in boiling water, stirs the fire till they are *just done*, takes them out immediately, throws a wet cloth round them, and gently squeezes each with the hand till it cracks open, for the watery particles to escape in form of steam, then peels them and they are exactly right. By this plan, almost any potatoe will eat well.—*Nashville Agriculturist.*

PRESERVING BEES.—A correspondent of the Genesee Farmer buries his bees under the ground in the winter—digs a trench in light elevated ground, the bottom having a gentle slope to guard against standing water; places the hives on small stones, and then covers them with straw and earth. Of 30 to 40 hives thus buried, he lost none. They consumed less honey than when kept in the usual way.

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

OCTOBER, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

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EDITORIAL NOTICES.

THE FAMILY MAGAZINE is a valuable miscellaneous work published monthly at Cincinnati at $2 per annum, each number containing 48 pages. It is filled with fine wood engravings of animals and other objects in the natural world, and gives much useful information in every department of history. For children especially it is a valuable work.

THE AMERICAN FARMER.—This paper published at Baltimore is the oldest agricultural paper in the United States, and was the first to honor us with an exchange. When in Baltimore a few months since, we enjoyed the hospitality of its publisher, Sam'l Sands Esq., and hope some day to be able to requite his kindness. For many years it was under the editorial charge of John S. Skinner Esq., who left it on for a situation in the Post Office Department at Washington. It is a weekly paper at $2,50 per annum, and is ably conducted.

THE SOUTHERN AGRICULTURIST, is the title of a monthly periodical of 56 pages published at Charleston S. C. at $5 per annum in advance. It treats much upon horticulture, and is a valuable work. Considering the inequality between that and our humble sheet, an apology is due for not having previously noticed it.

THE LOUISVILLE JOURNAL we have received regularly for some time past. Every newspaper reader knows what "Prentiscana" is, and in this paper they get it direct from the author. It is among the largest papers published; and besides containing a great variety of miscellaneous news and reading matter, a considerable portion of it is occupied with valuable agricultural articles, both original and selected. Terms for the weekly $3 per annum in advance. In politics it is whig.

THE PEORIA PAPERS.—Among the valuable papers published in the West, we cannot forbear to notice the Democratic Press, and the Register, published at Peoria. They are excellent family newspapers, and contain much agricultural information. The only fault we find with them is, that they permit farmers to send direct to them communications which should be sent to us. We lay claims to every communication upon agricultural subjects, and the newspapers may copy from us.

THE FARMER'S REGISTER.—Not knowing much about this work, except that it was very highly spoken of we sent a few numbers of our sheet with a "Puff." A few weeks since we took from the office a large pile of pamphlets which proved to be the long wished for Register; but instead of finding it an ordinary paper at one or two dollars, it proved to be a large magazine at $5 per annum in advance, filled principally with original matter. Had we known the character of the work, we should not have arrogated to ourself the right of an even exchange; but instead of refusing us the favor, the editor, Mr. Ruffin, sends us also an interesting essay by himself upon calcareous manures; an old number containing an elaborate treatise upon the origin of the prairies, also written by Mr R. and sundry other interesting pamphlets. For all these favors we can at present only return our most grateful acknowledgements; at some future day, when opportunity offers, we will show our gratitude in some more substantial manner. It is published at Petersburg, Va.

AGRICULTURAL ADDRESSES AND PRECINCT MEETINGS.—The following resolution was adopted at the late meeting of the U. A. S

"Resolved, That we recommend to the different precincts within the limits of this agricultural society, the expediency of holding precinct agricultural meetings; and any who may feel willing to lecture upon the subject, will please forward their names to the Corresponding Secretary."

Could the plan proposed in the adoption of the above resolution be successfully carried out, how rapidly would the cause of agricultural improvement advance! The only reason why more is not accomplished, is the want of information among the farmers generally, with regard to the advantages of agricultural organizations. Were each farmer to take an agricultural paper, the difficulties would be in a great measure removed; but there being so many thousands who never see a paper, some other course must be taken to interest them in the work. To the U. A. S. it seemed the most feasible and effective plan to hold precinct meetings during the coming winter, and have one or more addresses suitable to the occasion.

It was expected those individuals feeling a deep interest in the cause, would, without any false modesty, proffer their services, and engage to deliver one or more agricultural addresses, where they might be of most benefit. A single address could be delivered at several different places; and we shall expect steps will be taken very shortly for commencing the winter's campaign. Do not let one wait for another. Be on the move—the more of experience, with those just commencing active life. Let there be this winter a simultaneous effort to place the UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY among the first on the land. Why should it be second to another?

Who, then, will engage to prepare an address and spend a week or two in attending agricultural meetings at different points? How can a week be spent to greater benefit to the farmers of this region than in this work? Let those ardent in the cause send their names to the Secretary immediately, stating how long a time they will devote to the work; and let those individuals who would like to have meetings held in their neighborhoods, to explain the plan and objects of the U. A. S., correspond with the Secretary upon the subject, naming the time when the meeting shall be held.

Though the above is written with regard to the U. A. S., the plan is by no means confined to that society, but we will gladly publish notices for other societies. Let the West move in this matter *en masse.*

COMMON SCHOOLS.—In the commencement of this paper, it was determined to give a portion of its columns to the cause of common-school education. The press of agricultural matter has made it impossible to insert anything for several of the last numbers; but we hope to be able to enlarge the next volume, so that the cause also will receive at least some portion of the attention its importance demands. J. W. Jenks Esq., who formerly wrote the articles upon the subject for the Illinois Cultivator during its publication at Stevenson, called on us on his way to Boston, and said he would like to occupy a column or so of each number with articles upon this subject, which we have hoped he would do. We are looking for communications from him continually.

DIVISION OF LABOR BETWEEN THE EAST AND THE WEST.—In the New England Farmer allusion is made to the speech of Gov. Davis at the Worcester meeting, where he says, "We shall find the division of labor and its attendant benefits, extending itself through Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and still further West."

This is a subject we have thought considerably about; and in a former number have alluded to the mutual benefits that might be rendered between the East and West. The thickly settled portions of the East should engage extensively in manufacturing, as in the case that the entire population may have abundant employment. The East cannot compete with the West in agricultural productions, and should therefore permit the West to furnish their bread-stuffs in exchange for manufactured articles, which the sparseness of our population makes it impossible to manufacture with profit.

MUSIC AT AGRICULTURAL FAIRS.—Several societies, we see by their reported proceedings, procure music at their late meetings, to assist in forming the processions &c. Not only does a good band add greatly to the interest on such occasions, but it renders an essential service by bringing those in attendance where their presence is needed. Till this fall we have never seen an account of a Fair where music was employed; and we shall expect to see the number of societies employing music rapidly increase every year, till the custom becomes general.

COAL OIL.—The past year considerable quantities of core oil have been sold in this place, brought principally, if not entirely, from Michigan. We should like it much if some one would furnish us with a description of the process by which it is manufactured. In some papers it has been stated, that after the oil had been extracted, the remainder was in a better state for feeding to stock than before. There is much difference in the quality of corn oil. Some burns beautifully, with very little disagreeable odor; other kinds of it are utterly worthless. The difference is doubtless owing to the different modes of manufacturing it.

The agricultural papers, in speaking of extracting sugar from corn stalks, have alluded to what was said of the value of corn by "Arator," Col Taylor of Virginia, that it was our "meat, meat and manure;" and have added to it "Sugar." It seems "oil" is also to be added to the list of its valuable productions.

TO THE SECRETARIES OF WESTERN AG. SOC.—Gentlemen, we wish each of you to forward us a list of the officers of your several societies, for publication in the January number. Those in Illinois will please state whether they are auxiliary to the State Society or not. *Please send the list immediately, post paid,* and let the names be written in a plain hand to avoid typographical errors.

FARMER'S CLUBS.—In another column will be found an article from the Yankee Farmer, upon the benefits farmers will derive from meeting together and discussing the various subjects connected with their business. In the Farmer's Cabinet have appeared notices of numerous meetings of a club of this kind near Philadelphia; and could farmers spend an occasional evening with greater pleasure and profit, than in this manner? Here in the West, where we have so few lyceums, debating societies, lectures, and addresses of various kinds, &c. such meetings would seem to be very desirable. The substance of their discussions we should like for publication.

AG. SOC. IN THE WEST.—The past year much has been done in organizing societies, but still much remains to be done. Northern Indiana and Illinois are now taking the lead, and Wisconsin and Iowa must soon be on the move, or they will be left far behind in the race of agricultural improvement.

It is most cheering to find such a general interest prevailing in the West, to promote the interest first in importance to us—that of agriculture; and the coming winter we shall expect to receive accounts of the organization of many new societies in all parts of the West. Be assured there is nothing like union to advance any enterprise; and in what way can farmers so easily bind themselves together, as by these agricultural associations!

LIME IN PRAIRIE SOILS.—In Mr. Ruffin's essay upon the cause of the Formation of the Prairies, &c., he has several statements of analyses of soils. Among others we find the loam following: one sample from a small prairie in the neighborhood of St. Louis, Mo.; another from the surface of a ridge of rolling prairie in Macoupin co., Ills.; another from a flat prairie in same county; another sent by Geo. Churchill, Esq., from the Ridge prairie in Madison co., Illis., dry and rolling. Of these four Mr. Ruffin says:

"Neither contained a particle of carbonate of lime. All were very black, therefore supposed full of vegetable matter, and contained but a very small proportion of finely divided siliceous earth. For any practical and useful purpose, this essential ingredient might almost be said to be entirely wanting."

This we are much surprised at. From the great abundance of lime-stone in the West, we supposed it existed in considerable quantities in prairie soils: and if it be not the fact, it should be applied. This subject is well worthy the attention of our farmers, and we should be glad to hear from them about it.

ASPARAGUS BEDS.—Those having beds of this delicious vegetable, should now cover them three to five inches thick with well rotted manure.

THE GLEANER.

TOBACCO IN CANADA.—The editor of the Canadian Farmer, published at Kingston, says that he is told that during some years a thousand hogsheads of tobacco had been sent to England, the produce of the Western part of the province of Upper Canada. As much of the land in this portion of the Canadas, bordering on the St Lawrence, is fertile, we may find a competitor yet, in our neighbors across the lakes, in the tobacco mats of Europe.—*Am. Farmer.*

Unless present appearances are very deceitful, we opine Southern tobacco-raisers will not have to go across the lakes to find competition. The fertile prairies of the West will in a very few years export hundreds of tons.

SALTING HORSES.—A curious fact is mentioned in Parkes's Treatise on Salt—"A person who kept sixteen farming horses, made the following experiment with seven of them which had been accustomed to take salt with their food.—Lumps of rock-salt were laid in their mangers, and these lumps, previously weighed, were examined weekly, to ascertain what quantity had been consumed, and it was repeatedly found that whenever these horses were fed on old hay and corn, they consumed only from 2½ to 3 oz. per day, but that when they were fed with new hay, they took 6 oz. per day." This should convince us of the expediency of permitting our cattle to take free use of salt at all times, and it cannot be given in more convenient a form as rock-salt, it being much more palatable than the article in a refined state, and by far cheaper. A good lump should always be kept in a box by the side of every animal, without fear that it will ever be taken in excess.—*Far. Gab.*

DISTANCE APART OF HILLS IN CORN.—A correspondent of the Farmers' Register, makes the following observations about planting corn. We hope thirty bushels in the acre is not a large yield with prairie farmers.

"The first inquiry I propose to examine is the third in the order in which they are made: it is, "at what distance is it best to plant, and by what modes of culture corn will produce most net profit?"

"On the first head of this inquiry, I have satisfied myself, from my own experience and from all the observation I have bestowed upon the management of others, that, in the middle region of South Carolina, corn on upland will, one year with another, on manured and unmanured lands, produce most at the distance of four feet by five, and one stock to the hill. This may seem to most planters too far apart, and that too much ground is lost thereby. If the object with the planter is to produce the greatest number of ears, and not the largest quantity of grain, I will admit that the distance is too great, but not otherwise. Thirty bushels of grain to an acre of Indian corn, on upland, is a large yield—far above the average with the best planters, and above the largest yield to any one, with most. It is easily proved, that on acre of corn planted four feet by five, and one stock to the hill, will produce over that quantity, if each stock will produce an ear that will measure a pint, and it cannot be a difficult matter to make land rich enough to yield a pint to the stock, if sufficient distance is given. By lessening the distance, or leaving two stocks to the hill, a portion of the nutriment that would otherwise be imparted to the ear will be drawn away to support the increased quantity of stock and the blades thereon, and more fodder, but less corn will be made thereby.

"Added to this is another reason why I give that distance to my corn. I never take off the suckers, and I leave it to nature to relieve such stocks of any superabundance of nutriment in the soil, by throwing off as many suckers as it can support. This last reason may be a very insufficient one to most planters, and I may be so given rise to another "*disputed question in agriculture,*" but I am fully convinced that nothing is gained by removing the suckers from corn, often injury is done, and always time is lost in the operation. So that though I leave my corn very wide apart at first, it becomes soon whol thicker, and just where I want it—in the best spots; and I have, the distance better regulated by that means, than by the most judicious management of my own. On the propriety of leaving the suckers on corn, I could supply some interesting details, and perhaps some useful information, I would thereby extend this article to too great length."

CASTOR OIL FACTORY.—The Alton Telegraph says Mr. E. Marsh of that place has established a castor oil factory. We know of none in the north, though if one were put in operation our farmers would doubtless furnish beans in abundance. It would be well for some one having seed to spare to send some to the Repository for sale.

THE BROWN CORN.—A correspondent of the Southern Agriculturist, of S. C., says he had been induced, by the strong representations of Eastern farmers, in favor of this species of corn, to give it a trial in a soil of dark sandy loam, with a substratum of blue clay, and which, the year before, produced no excellent crop of "Cooper's prolific" and "Carolina flint." It was cultivated with care; but the writer complains that it tassaled out when about three feet high, and that although numerous suckers were thrown out, not one of them formed a good ear—in short that he considered the experiment a total failure, and this species of corn valueless.

The editor of the Boston Cultivator notices this article, and thinks the seed was not genuine—says he has experimented three years since upon two acres each of Dutton, Phinney, Canada, and Brown corn, and has given a decided preference to the Brown. He cultivates so other; and thinks with him, that it produces more to the acre than any other variety; though he says with a richer soil and better keep, he thinks the Dutton or Phinney will produce the most.

TOBACCO IN WISCONSIN.—We have seen it stated in the Dubuque Express, that about 100 acres of tobacco will be raised in Grant co. alone.

A GOOD SIZED BERKSHIRE.—The Fulton Telegraph says Dr. Curtiss of Canton butchered a Berkshire weighing 423 lbs, which had no extra attention; never having been sheltered or fed with cooked food. He cut full 12 inches deep on the back. The hams weighed 45½ lbs each.

JAMES N. BROWN, ESQ.—The editor of the Illinoian compliments Mr. Brown of Island Grove, Sangamo co, for his spirited efforts to improve the stock in that region; and the praise is justly due.

FAST WORKING OXEN.—The greatest objection to the employment of oxen upon the road and on the farm is their movement. This objection is often the fault of the man than the beast. Very much depends upon the training of steers, and no animal shows the treatment he has received more surely than the ox. Observe him when he is free in the field, and he will walk as fast as a horse; and the same speed of walking may be secured in the team by proper training. Its common in breaking them to yoke them with oxen that have already acquired a slow pace, or to load them so heavily that they can scarcely move, and by such means it is that they acquire a lurdy habit of working while in the team; but it is better to train them yoked behind a fast walking horse, or to attach them to a light wagon, with a load they can easily move; by this course a quick step may be secured, which will go far to obviate the objection above named.—*Selected.*

JUGS.—The Jug is a most singular utensil. A pail, tumbler, or decanter may be rinsed, and you may satisfy yourself by ocular proof that the thing is clean; but a jug has a little hole in the top, and the interior is all darkness. No eye penetrates it, no hand moves over the surface. If the water comes out clean, you judge that you have succeeded in purifying the interior of the jug, and vice versa. Hence a jug is like the human heart. No mortal eye can look into its recesses, but you can judge of purity or impurity only by what comes out of it.—*N. Y. Atlas.*

OIL AT PUMPKIN SEED.—The Germans on the banks of the Wabash, in Indiana, instead of throwing away or giving to the pigs, the seeds of their pumpkins, as is usually done, collect them and make an oil from them which they use for all the purposes of lamp oil and olive oil. They may be pressed like rape and flaxseed. Try it.—*Selected*

SALT IN IOWA.—The Dubuque Express says it is reported there are an abundance of salt springs and lakes about fifty miles West of St. Peters.

CORN SHUCKS.—I see that you recommend the cob of the corn as a food for cattle. There is another part of the corn that I have long thought was too much neglected. I mean the shock. Ten years ago I was in the habit of throwing my shucks in the farm pen for litter. I now make a much better use of them. I pass them all through the cutting-knife, and feed them not only to my cattle but also to my horses. After the most satisfactory trial, I am fully convinced that they are the strongest part of the corn, next to the grain. My method is this. My shucks are cut up in the morning, and thrown into a half hogshead of water strongly impregnated with salt. In the evening they are taken up in an open split basket, in which they are held suspended over the hogshead for a few moments, until the water is drained off; the moistened shucks are then mixed with corn meal and bran, and fed, as I said before, as well to my horses as my cattle. The morning meal is treated the same way, beginning the preceding evening.

I have made careful experiments to ascertain the fact, and although a horse may refuse the shucks at first, I am fully satisfied that they make the very best cut food that was ever given to any animal.—Give me a plenty of shucks, and I want no cut hay, fodder, or straw. Many people who acknowledge their value for cattle and mules, are of opinion that they do not answer so well for horses. This is a great mistake I assure you, and arises from the fact that a horse, fed upon more dainty food, will turn up his nose at first at the smell of a shuck; just as a pampered fine gentleman would perhaps reject a solid dish of bacon and greens when it was first set before him. But give him nothing else, and his appetite will anon come to him, and he will find by experience, that there is other food upon which he can do his work so

In a week, he will prefer it to any thing you can give him, and so will you.—*South. Planter.*

PERSEVERANCE.—The New Haven Farmer's Gazette says that after the plowing match at the Middlesex co., Fair, 101 yoke of oxen were attached to a plow, and alongside of them were arrayed a row of sprightly grey haired plow-*boys*, from 70 to 90 years of age. The plow was held by Capt. Wm. Harris, of Middletown, a veteran farmer of 92 winters.

It would be hard work "to scare up" a sight of that kind in the West; as there were many drivers.

ONE GOOD USE FOR RUM.—The Yankee Farmer recommends using New England Rum for killing necks on lambs. Wonder if Whiskey would not do as well; and if it would not be good economy to use up in that way what is manufactured in the West, even though every lamb should be drowned in the operation.

HISTORY OF IMPORTED CATTLE.—*By Lewis Sanders.*—The general characteristic of the cattle of the United States, is the same as the common cattle of Devonshire, and adjoining counties of Dorsetshire, and Somersetshire in England, from whence, I think, they were derived. Plymouth, a considerable sea port, lies in the former county; it was the last port for vessels to touch at, bringing out the first settlers of the Colonies, and the encouragement one for taking on board such live stock and supplies generally, as would be thought useful to the settlers of a new country.

I have observed the cattle of the New England States, of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, and they seem to have had a common origin. The first settlers of Kentucky brought with them the blooded horse and common cattle of their native State, (Virginia.)

The first effort to improve the breed of cattle in this country that we have any account of, was made by Mr. Matthew Patton, then living on the South branch of the Potomac, in Virginia. Mr. Patton, with a numerous family, removed to Kentucky, bringing with them their fine cattle.

This breed was held in great estimation, and was generally spread through the country. Capt. Wm. Smith, was a very successful breeder soon after Mr. Patton's time. Up to the year 1817, all the English cattle in Kentucky were derived from the Patton stock, and from Miller's stock; Captain Smith's was made up from them. Soon after the late war, I imported from England the stock known as the importation of 1817—in all twelve head—four short-horned bulls, four short-horned cows, two long-horned bulls, and two long-horned cows. One of the short-horned cows died in Maryland, and one of the short-horned bulls was sold to Gen. T. Fletcher of Bath county, where he died, having greatly improved the General's and his neighbors' stock. Another short-horned bull was taken to the southern part of the State by Mr. Tegarden, and sold by him to the Shakers, who took him to the Wabash country, leaving in the neighborhood of Lexington, *Tecumseh* and *Sir Martin*, bulls—and *Mrs. Malte*, and *the Durham Cow*, and the *Tecumseh Cow*—from these five animals (short horns) have mainly sprung the stock of 1817. Mr. Clay imported at the same time a bull, a cow, and heifer of the Herefordshire breed. Mr. Prentiss imported two short-horned bulls the next winter.

I continued to breed from this importation for several years and after twelve or thirteen years, could not discover any improvement in the young stock—seemed to be rather a decline; the improvement was made that we had bred too long in the same family. In 1831, I procured a bull and three cows from Col. Powell's celebrated stock,—crossing these with the stock of 1817 was highly beneficial, which has been continued with singular advantage. In 1835 all my stock went into the possession of my son. About this time Mr. David Sutton imported several of the improved short-horned Durheims. Then the Ohio Company imported a number from England, and subsequently numerous importations have been made by spirited individuals of Kentucky, and we now have an abundant supply of the improved short horned Durham, the greatest favorites at this time.

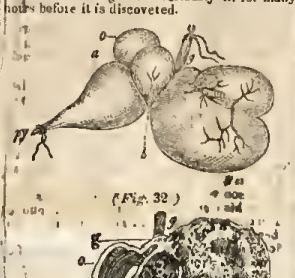
The cattle of Kentucky are free from disease. An experienced and intelligent feeder of the vicinity of Chillicothe, informed me that he would pay five per cent more for Kentucky bullocks than he would for Ohio bred bullocks. From experience in the business, he was of the opinion there was fully that difference on account of the greater morthiness on the part of the Ohio cattle. This will apply with equal force to the States of Indiana and Illinois.

To improve the breed of cattle of a neighborhood, or upon a single farm, in the shortest time, with the least cost, is the great *desideratum*. New beginners should commence with such cows as they may chance to own. Sell or otherwise dispose of the ill-shaped, coarse and old ones. A prejudice exists against black cows, it is best in yield to it, and part with them also; retain the young and well formed females: if good nod well bred, so much the better. The *bull* is the important instrument whereby the improvement is effected. Select a good young bull, having due regard to the blood of the cow he is to go to; the more remote of kin the better. Let him be from one to three years old; he can serve from fifty to sixty cows from the 1st of April to the 1st of September, the best time for a bull to be with the cows; after getting two lots of calves, sell the bull. If he has been well kept, he will fetch his cost or more; then procure a bull of different blood from the last, and suitable for the young stock. After breading to this bull two seasons, sell him and buy another; and so on progressively. Pursuing this method, the whole stock of a country may be speedily changed from an inferior to a superior race, without any expense or cost whatever, except the risk of the life of the bull and the interest on his cost; by re-investing the money, it will be lost, unless the animal dies. Carry out this system, and benefit must be the result, and in proportion to the care and abilities bestowed on the subject. A neighborhood now selling one hundred bullocks a year of the common breed, loses two thousand dollars on that number, by not breeding to a full blood bull, and so in proportion to a greater or less number; a feeder will pay ten dollars more, for a two year old half-bloodad steer than he will be willing to give for a three year old of the common breed—a year's keep, risk of life, and interest of money, is worth ten dollars. Ten dollars *received*, and ten dollars *saved* is twenty dollars.—*Kentucky Cultivator.*

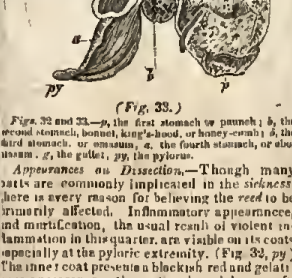
USEFUL RECIPES.

DISEASES OF SHEEP, *continued from page 78.*—*Grazy or Sickness.*—Six or eight species of brazy are enumerated by shepherds, but as they all bear a striking resemblance one to another, in their origin and progress, it is preferable to treat of them as one disease. Indeed wire-drawn distinctions, though occasionally serviceable to couple medicine, ought in most instances to be avoided, as they are of but little avail, and in this instance straw-splitting can only serve to tantalize the farmer, by giving rise to ideas of local modes of treatment, which before the chapter ends, are reduced to the simplest aids which medicine affords. Whatever may be the seat or seats of the disease, the identically same resources are employed in all —way therefore ought the reader to be troubled with a hundred trifling phases, which, not being essential to the malady, can only tend to perplex him in his search for the little that is practically available.

Symptoms of Brazy.—In those rare cases where the animal is seen at the commencement of the disease, it will appear uneasy, lying down and rising up repeatedly, loathing food, and drinking frequently. In a little while the symptoms become more decided, and fever shows itself.—The wool is clapped, the skin hot, the pulse quick and strong, respiration is rapid and laborious, while the blood is thick and black, issuing from the orifice, in attempts at bleeding, drop by drop. Sometimes the heart beats irregularly; the mouth is parched, and the eyes are red, languid, partly closed, and watery. The head is down, the back drawn up, and the belly swollen; there is scarcely any passage through the bowels, the urine is small in quantity, high colored, and sometimes bloody. The sheep shuns the flock, slowly dragging itself to some retired spot, where it will lie and screaming it shortly dies. Death may occur in a few hours, or may, in some rare cases, be delayed for a week. A fatal termination is not so sudden as some have fancied, since the animal is in general seriously ill for many hours before it is discovered.



(*Fig. 32.*)



(*Fig. 33.*)

Figs. 32 and 33.—*p*, the first stomach or paunch; *b*, the second stomach, bonnet, king's-hood, or honey-comb; *b*, the third stomach, or manyplies, *c*, the fourth stomach, or abomasum. *g*, the gullet, *py*, the pylorus.

Appearances on Dissection.—Though many parts are commonly implicated in the *sickness*, there is every reason for believing the *seed* to be primarily affected. Inflammatory appearances, and mortification, the usual result of violent inflammation in this quarter, are visible on its coats especially at the pyloric extremity. (Fig. 32, *py*) The inner coat presents a blackish red and gelatinous appearance,—the entire bowel being soft, pulpy, and easily permeable to the finger. The intestines, kidneys, and bladder, will, in all probability, exhibit similar changes, while the lining membrane of the abdomen (the *peritoneum*) is frequently affected; when this membrane has been much inflamed, the intestines are glued to either, and surrounded with bloody or flocculent serum, occasioning before death timidity of the under part of the belly, and communicating, when struck, a feeling of fluctuation to a hand placed at a distance from the blow. The muscles in various parts of the body frequently participate in the disease, bloody serum being infiltrated between the layers. As the brain, in severe cases, exhibits symptoms of oppression, so on dissection it will be found red and turgid, enabling us to account for the convulsive movements during the termination of the malady.—The whole body, more particularly the abdomen, gives out a fetid gangrenous odour, which has procured for brazy the pastoral appellation of "*stinking ill*," and renders the dissection far from pleasant. After death putrefaction goes on with great rapidity, especially in moist weather, hence the necessity of testing the solidity of the carcass, by giving it, as is customary in some part, *three shakes* before proceeding to prepare it for household use.

Causes of Brazy.—Whatever tends to constipate the bowels may be reckoned a predisposing cause. Whenever constipation occurs, especially if on a sickrife pasture, the sheep may be looked upon as ripe for the disease. Any crude indigestible substance, taken into the stomach when the animal is in that state, will have a tendency to kindle brazy, and the liability to it will not only be heightened, but the chances of recovery will also be lessened, by the animal being in high condition.

Wadder hogs are peculiarly its victims, but only when hirsled, as when allowed to pasture with their mothers they are less liable to it.—This is accounted for by the fact, that hirsled hogs are comparatively *dull*, not being familiar with the proper times for feeding, and incapable of selecting the suitable herbage, from having wanted the tutoring of the mother.

From the beginning of November till the middle of March, *sickness* commits its greatest ravages, especially among heath sheep, from their being more confined than others to dry binding provender. Frozen grass is also a common exciting cause, rapidly inducing inflammation by lowering the temperature of the stomachs so very much as to arrest digestion, and lead to its acting as an irritant. The succulent grass in the sheltered hollows of mountains is more liable to frost, than a sapless heritage, and to it, owing to its moisture, the young sheep resort, devouring it eagerly to assuage their thirst. Brazy, however, may arise from other and more obvious causes. The sheep, perhaps when heated by rash dogging, is suddenly chilled by exposure to a shower, or a plunge in a morass, and if the bowels be at the time any way bound up, immediate mischief cannot but ensue. One of the rarest accidents to which it has been attributed is the prevention of the passage of the faeces by a knot, or intussusceptum, forming on the intestines; but this occurrance would be of difficult discovery, and even if made known, our treatment, though not differing much from that of brazy, could hardly be successful.

Treatment of Brazy.—Recovery is in many instances almost hopeless, owing to the length of time which to general elapses between the onset of the disease and the shepherd's discovery of the animal. Nevertheless, the best treatment ought in every instance to have a proper trial, as life may often be saved when such a result is least expected. Many plans have been resorted to, but none are found to suit so well as that of bleeding and purging. The first thing to be attempted is the procuring of a copious flow of blood, but, as before mentioned, this is a difficult matter, owing to the stagnant state of the circulation at the surface of the body. Its abstraction may, however, be rendered easy by placing the sheep in a tub of warm water, or, where this cannot be procured, by rolling a blanket wrung out of hot water round the body of the animal. The tub of water should always be preferred, and the moment the sheep is placed in it, the tail should be nicked, and one or both jugular veins opened.

Retain the sheep in the bath for half an hour, adding hot water from time to time, so as to sustain the original temperature. This of itself will alleviate the sufferings of the animal.

When a copious flow of blood has been obtained, remove the sheep from the tub, and administer two ounces of Glauber's or Epsom salt, dissolved in warm water, substituting a handful of common salt when these cathartics cannot be procured, as it is needless to give a purgative without bleeding, as, till this is done, it will not operate. When in spite of this the bowels continue obstinately constipated, give a clyster of tobacco decoction, made by boiling a drachm of the leaf in the fullest a pint will do) for a few minutes in a pint of water. Half of this only should be injected, and the other if circumstances require it. Place the sheep in a house, or any comfortable situation, bed it with straw, throw a horse-rug over it, and promote the purging by warm gruels. When out of danger supply it with moderate quantities of laxative provander, and keep it for ten days apart from its fellows, by which time it will, in all likelihood, be well recruited.

Prevention of Brazy.—Change of pasture will at once suggest itself. Let it be to a succulent one, on which old sheep have been for some time feeding; the hogs will thus be hindered from filling their paunches too rapidly. But if healthy food is the staple provender, allow your sheep four or five hours of turnips in the twenty-four, permitting at the same time free access to common salt. These, from their laxative effects, will serve as antidotes to the dry aspiess grasses, which have led to the disease. Such places as mossy soils, abounding in evergreen plants, will also serve the purpose. Burn your lay heather, as nothing is more decidedly prejudicial, not only from its constipating qualities, but also from being surrounded by a grass, which is so much relished by the sheep, that they resort to its spot long after it has been eaten to the quick, and devour in their eagerness much that is foul and unwholesome from frequent puddling. You thus obtain a good supply of sprouts, as invaluable for opening qualities as the old heather is to be dreaded for its astringency. Finally, be aware that careful herding is not the least efficacious of prevantives; a quiet, even-tempered, and thoughtful shepherd being horse of far more value than the stores of the apothecary.

Pining; Symptoms and Causes.—The name has arisen from the rapid wasting, which is a prominent symptom in this complaint. A farmer can hardly be subject to a more ruinous distemper, as the same sheep will be affected by it year after year, and if a ewe be attacked during autumn, it is fair to one she will not have a lamb in the ensuing season. Pining only seizes on thriving sheep, preferring young ones, three more especially of the larger breeds, and is confined to farms where the land is principally mountainous and covered with occasional stripes of benty grasses. A whole flock sickens at once, their usual alacrity appears to have deserted them, their eyes are dull, and the whole animal seems weary and languid. At a more advanced stage the wool acquires a bluish tinge, the blood becomes thick, diminishing in quantity, and the muscles assume a pale and bloodless appearance. The bowels are constipated, and to this the following symptoms apparently owe their origin. If

the disease progress, death will ensue in about a month.

Treatment and Prevention.—The first object is to obtain a free discharge from the bowels by means of purgatives, as, whenever a flux appears, the animal is safe. Two ounces of castor oil given in a gruel, or the same quantity of Epsom salts, will do, care being taken that the purging be carried to some length.

Removal to a rich pasture is the only preventive. That pasture should be preferred which contains a good proportion of bitter plants, for the emaciation appears to be owing in a considerable degree to torpor of the bowels, occasioned by long abstinance from these necessaries.

To be continued.

* A gradual wasting of the animal, similar to what occurs in pining, may result from the irritation consequent on swallowing pointed bodies, as pins or needles. I have in my possession a very stout needle, given me by Mr. Wilkin of Tinwald Downs, which was found buried in the coats of the stomach of a young sheep which died under the above symptoms, having been ill about three months.

PRE-EMPTION RIGHTS.—This being a subject of general interest to Western farmers, we have procured the following instructions from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, which are binding upon all Registers and Receivers; and give them entire, so that the settler may know exactly what he has to do.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
September 15th, 1841.

Gentlemen: Annexed is a copy of that portion of an act of Congress, approved on the 4th instant, entitled "An act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and to grant pre-emption rights," which has relation to the subject of pre-emptions. Your attention is directed to the several provisions of that portion of said act, and your observance enjoined of the rules hereinafter stated, as prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, in accordance with the 12th section of said act.

The individual claiming the benefits of said act must be,

First. A citizen of the United States, or have filed his declaration of intention to become a citizen.

Second. Either the head of a family, or a widow, or a single man over the age of twenty-one years.

Third. An inhabitant of the tract sought to be entered, upon which, in person, he has made a settlement and erected a dwelling house, since the 1st of June, 1840, and prior to the time when the land is applied for; which land must, at the *date of the settlement*, have had the *Indian title extinguished* and *been surveyed* by the United States.

A person failing in any one of these requisites can have no claim by virtue of this act.

A person bringing himself within each of the above requirments by proof satisfactory to the Register and Receiver of the land District in which the lands may lie, taken pursuant to the rules hereinafter prescribed, will, after having taken the affidavit required by the act, be entitled to enter, by legal subdivisions, any number of acres not exceeding one hundred and sixty, or a quarter-section, to include his residence, and he may avail himself of the same at any time prior to the day of the commencement of the public sale, including said tract, where the land has not yet been proclaimed.

Where the land was subject to private entry, at the date of the settlement *made since 1st of June*, 1840, *and prior to the passage of this act*, and the settler is desirous of securing the same under this act, he must give notice of his intention to purchase the same under its provisions, within *three months* from the passage of the law; that is, before the *fourth day of December next*.

Where the land shall hereafter become subject to private entry, and *after that period a settlement shall be made*, which the settler is desirous of securing under this act, each notice of his intention must be given within *thirty days* after the *date* of such settlement. Such notice, in both cases, must be a written one, describing the land settled upon, and declaring the intention of such person to claim the same under the provisions of this act. (*See forms* A *and* S *hereto annexed.*)

In the first case the proof, affidavit, and payment, must be made within *twelve months* after the *passage of this act*; and, in the second case, within *twelve months* after the *date of such settlement.*

These declaratory statements are to be regularly numbered by the Register in the order of the date of their reception, and entered in a suitable book, columned off, to show the number, date, when received, name of the party, and description of the tract claimed, and monthly abstracts of the same are to be furnished to the General Land Office, with your other monthly returns.

The existence of these claims should be indicated on the township plats, by marking, with *red ink*, a cross, ✕, on the spot occupied by the tract claimed; and, also, with red ink, noting on the same spot the number of the declaratory statement, in neat and very small *figures*, so as not too much to interfere with the regular annotations which will have to be made, when the regular proof and payment shall have been made by the claimant, and his entry of the tract consummated. The existence of such claims should also be noted, in *pencil*, in their appropriate places in the *tract books*.

The tracts liable to entry under this act, are some open to the following designations:

First. A regular quarter-section, notwithstanding its quantity may be a few acres more or less than one hundred and sixty; or a quarter-section, which, though fractional in quantity by the passage of a navigable stream through the same, is still bounded by regular sectional and quarter-sectional lines.

Second. A fractional section, containing not over one hundred and sixty acres, or any tract being a detached or anomalous survey, made pursuant to law, and not exceeding said quantity.

Third. Two adjoining half quarter-sections (in all cases to be separated by a north and south line, except on the north side of township, where the surveys are so made as to throw the excess or deficiency on the north and west sides of the township,) of the regular quarters mentioned in the first designation; or, two adjoining eighty-acre subdivisions of the irregular quarters found on the north and west sides of townships, where more than two such subdivisions exist, or the excess may render them necessary, provided in the latter case the aggregate quantity does not exceed one hundred and sixty acres.

Fourth. Two half quarter or eighty acre subdivisions of a fractional or broken section, adjoining each other, the aggregate quantity not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres.

Fifth. A regular half quarter and an adjoining fractional section, or an adjoining half-quarter subdivision of a fractional section, the aggregate quantity not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres.

Sixth. If the pre-emptor should not wish to enter the quantity of one hundred and sixty acres, he may enter a single half quarter section, (made by a north and south line,) or an eighty acre subdivision of a fractional section.

Seventh. One or more adjoining residuary forty acre lots may be entered, the aggregate not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres.

Eighth. A regular half-quarter, a half-quarter subdivision, or a fractional section, may each be taken with one or more residuary forty acre subdivisions lying adjoining, the aggregate not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres.

These lots can only be called "*residuary*" after the sale of the other portions of the same quarter-section, or fractional quarter-section, pursuant to the act approved April 5, 1832, authorizing such minor subdivisions.

It is evident, therefore, that forty acre subdivisions can, in no case, be permitted of land not yet proclaimed and offered at public sale.

Only one person on a quarter-section is protected by this law, and that is the one who made the *first settlement*, provided he shall have conformed to the other provisions of the law.

A person who has *once availed himself* of the provisions of this act, cannot at any future period, or at any other land office, acquire another right under it.

No person who is the proprietor of *three hundred and twenty acres* of land in any State or Territory of the United States, is entitled to the benefits of this act.

No person who shall *quit or abandon his residence* on his *own land* to reside on the public land in the *same State* or *Territory*, is entitled to the benefits of this act.

No pre-emption right exists, by reason of a settlement on and abandonment of a tract, unless at the date of such settlement the Indian title thereto had been extinguished, and the land surveyed by the United States.

Land is not properly, legally surveyed, until the surveys made by the deputies are approved by the Surveyor General: but in accordance with the spirit and intent of the law, and for the purpose of bringing the settler within its provisions, the land is to be construed as surveyed, when the requisite lines are run on the field, and the corners established by the deputy surveyor.

No assignments or transfers of pre-emption rights can be recognised. The patents must issue to the claimants, in whose names alone all entries must be made.

Sundry descriptions of land which are exempted from the operations of this act:

1st. Lands included in any reservation by any treaty, law, or proclemetion of the President of the United States, and lands reserved for salines or for other purposes.

2d. Lands reserved for the support of schools.

3d. Lands acquired by either of the two last treaties with the Miami tribe of Indians in the State of Indiana, or which may be acquired of the Wyandot tribe of Indians in the State of Ohio, or other Indian reservation to which the title has been, or may be extinguished by the United States at any time during the operation of this act.

4th. Sections of land reserved to the United States, alternate to other sections granted to any of the States for the construction of any canal, railroad, or other public improvement.

5th. Sections or fractions of sections included within the limits of any incorporated town.

6th. Every portion of the public lands which has been selected as a site for a city or town.

7th. Every parcel or lot of land actually settled and occupied for the purposes of trade, and not agriculture.

8th. All lands on which are situated any known salines or mines.

Persons claiming the benefits of this act, are required to file duplicate affidavits such as the law requires, and to furnish proof by one or more disinterested witnesses, to your entire satisfaction, of the facts necessary to establish the three requisite pointed out in the commencement of these instructions.

The witnesses are to be first duly sworn or affirmed to speak the truth, and the whole truth, touching the subject of inquiry, by some officer competent to administer oaths and affirmations; and, if not too inconvenient, by reason of distance of residence from your office, or other good cause, must be examined by you, and the testimony reduced to writing in your presence, and signed by each witness, and certified by the officer administering the oath or affirmation, who must also join you in certifying as to the respectability and credit of each witness.

In case adverse claims shall be made to the same tract, each claimant must be notified of the time and place of taking testimony, and allowed the privilege of cross-examining the opposite witnesses, and of producing counter-proof, which should also be subject to cross-examination.

When, by reason of distance, sickness, or infirmity, the witnesses cannot come before you, you are authorised to receive their depositions; which must be, in all other respects, conformable to the within regulations.

The notice to adverse claimants should be in writing, and should be served in time to allow at least a day for every twenty miles the party may have to travel, in going to the place of taking evidence. The proof, in all cases, should consist of a simple detail of facts merely, and not of statements in broad or general terms, involving conclusions of law. It is your exclusive province to determine the legal conclusions arising from the facts. For instance, a witness should not be permitted to state that a claimant is the "head of a family," &c., following the words of the law, but should set forth the facts on which the grounds such allegation; because such a mode of testifying substitutes the judgment of the witness for yours, and allows him not only to determine the facts, but the law. A witness may possibly conscientiously testify that a minor son living with a widowed mother, was the head of the family; and, in another case, similar in point of fact, another witness, equally conscientious, might testify that the widowed mother was the head of the family. There cannot be a uniform construction given to the law, if it is carelessly left to the opinion of every witness. You are therefore instructed not to receive as testimony or proof, a general statement, which embodies, in general terms, the conclusions of law, without stating the facts specifically.

The witnesses must state, of the pre-emptor be the "head of a family," the facts which constitute him such, whether a husband having a wife and children, or a widower, or an unmarried person under twenty-one years of age, having a family, either of relatives or others depending upon him, or hired persons, or slaves.

All the facts respecting the settlement in person, inhabitancy or personal residence, *the time of commencement*, the manner and extent of continuance, as well as those showing the apparent objects, should be stated.

It must be stated, that the claimant made the settlement on the land in person; that *he* has erected a dwelling upon the land; that the claimant lived in it, and made it his home, &c. By this means, you will be enabled to determine whether or not the requisites of the law have been complied with in any given case. Should you decide against a claimant, who, feeling dissatisfied with such decision, may request, in writing, the opinion of this office thereon, you will forthwith forward all the original papers touching said claim, and a brief report of your reasons for rejecting it; and, in the mean time, will not permit the land claimed to be entered or sold without an order from the Department.

The affidavit of the claimant in reference to the *fact of settlement*, &c., need not be required, if in no case, legal evidence on these points, and therefore should not form a part of the proof in reference thereto. The *only* affidavit required of the claimant is that prescribed by the 13th section of the act, which is to be taken before the Register or Receiver. (*See form* C, *hereto annexed.*)

No entry must be permitted until this affidavit is taken. Duplicates thereof must be signed by the claimant, and the fees of the oath being taken must be certified by the Register or Receiver administering it, one copy to be filed in your office, and the other to be transmitted to this office — Each entry made, by virtue of this act, must be designated by marking on the margin of your quarterly accounts and monthly abstracts, opposite to the tract, the abbreviation "*Pre'n. 1841*," and on the face of the receipt and of the certificate, "*Pre-emption Act of 1841.*"

You will continue, unbroken, the regular series of numbers for receipts and certificates.— The original proof, affidavit, and receipt, must be filed with the certificate of purchase, in each case; *each paper being appropriately endorsed*, and transmitted to this office, with your monthly abstract, which must contain and show the aggregate of lands sold, and the purchase money, at the foot of the abstract. Also, a separate aggregate of the lands sold, and the purchase money, under each of the pre-emption acts, by virtue of which any entries in that month may be made. No excuse can be allowed for negligence in observing this direction.

The forms for applications, receipts, and certificates, will be the same as those used for private entries. The distinct provision for land subject to private entry rendering a separate form for lands of the latter description unnecessary.

Very respectfully, gentlemen, your obt. serv't,
E. M. HUNTINGTON, Commissioner.

FORM A.

For cases where, at the date of the law, the land claimed was subject to private entry.

I, A. B., of , being [the head of a family, or widow, or single man, over the age of twenty-one years, as the case may be, and a citizen of the United States, or having filed my declaration to become a citizen as required by the naturalization laws, as the case may be,] have, since the first day of June, 1840, to wit: on the day of , A. D. 184 , settled and improved the quarter section, number , in township number , of range number , in the district of lands subject to sale at the land office at , and containing acres, which land was *subject to private entry at the passage* of the act of 4th September, 1841; and I do hereby declare my intention to claim the said tract of land as a pre-emption right under the provisions of said act of 4th September, 1841.

Given under my hand, this day of , A. D. 184 .

(Signed) A. B.

In presence of
C. D.

FORM B.

For cases where the land claimed shall have been rendered subject to private entry since the date of the law.

I, A. B., of , being [the head of a family, or widow, or single man, over the age of twenty-one years, as the case may be, a citizen of the United States, or having filed my declaration to become a citizen as required by the naturalization laws, as the case may be,] have, since the first day of , A. D. 184 , settled and improved the quarter of section number , in township number , of range number , in the district of lands subject to sale at the land office at , and containing acres, which land *has been rendered subject to private entry since* the passage of the act of 4th September, 1841, but prior to my settlement thereon; and I do hereby declare my intention to claim the said tract of land as a pre-emption right, under the provisions of said act of 4th September, 1841.

Given under my hand, this day of , A. D. 184 .

(Signed) A. B.

In presence of
C. D.

Affidavit required of pre-emption claimants.

FORM C.

I, A. B., claiming the right of pre-emption under the provisions of the act of Congress, entitled "An act to appropriate the proceeds of the sale of the public lands, and to grant pre-emption rights," approved September 4, 1841, to the quarter of section number of township number , of range number , subject to sale at , do solemnly swear, [or affirm, as the case may be,] that I have never had the benefit of any right of pre-emption under this act; that I am not the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land in any State or Territory of the United States, nor have I settled upon and improved said land to sell the same on speculation, but in good faith to appropriate it to my own exclusive use or benefit; and that I have not, directly or indirectly, made any agreement or contract, in any way or manner, with any person or persons whatsoever, by which the title which I may acquire from the Government of the United States should inure, in whole or in part, to the benefit of any person except myself.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this day of , A. D. 184 .

(Signed) A. B.

I, C. D., register [or E. F., receiver] of the land office at , do hereby certify, that the above affidavit was taken and subscribed before me, this day of , A. D. 184 .

(Signed) C. D., *Register.*
Or, E. F., *Receiver.*

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES,

Their Doings &c.

LAPORTE CO. (IA) MEETING AND FAIR.—The La Porte Co. Society held its Fair at Laporte on the 14th and 15th ult. Also. Blackburn was appointed Pres. pro tem., Aaron Stooton Vice Prest., and J. M. Stoart Corresponding Secretary. The first day the stock was examined, of which there was a very choice lot. The second day a procession was formed under the direction of R. Munday, and accompanied by the Washington band, marched to the court-house, where after prayer by Rev. Mr. Tucker, an excellent address was delivered by Mr. Hathoway. We have not room to publish it.

The committee on farms reported that but two were offered for them to view, B. Newkirk's and L. C Andrew's. The committee speak well of these farms, and especially that of Mr. Newkirk, but the committee chose not to award the premium to either, because it thought many other farms might have been offered, equally as good.

The Committee on Cattle reported the following premiums:

To J. Welker, best blood bull	$5 00
J. Walker, 2d best,	4 vol. Cultivator.
Clinton Foster, best bull calf,	$4 00
J. Welker, 2d best do.,	1 vol. Union Agricu.
J. Walker, best blooded cow,	$5 00
J. Walker, 2d best do.	1 vol, U. A.
Samuel Treat, best milch cow,	$4 00
Mr. Farnsworth, 2d best,	1 vol. U. A.
Allied Stanton, best fat ox,	$5 00
C. Foster, 2d do,	1 vol. U. A.
B. Newkirk, best yoke oxen,	4 vols. C.
S Aldrich, 2d do.,	1 vol, U. A.
David Burr, best Berkshire Pig,	$5 00
A. Mellville, 2d do.,	4 vol. Cul.
H. Wheeler, 3d do.,	1 vol. U. A.
West Darling, best sow,	$5 00
W. A. Place, 2d do.	4 vol. Cul.
S. Aldrich, 3d do.,	1 vol. U. A.
H. Wheeler, best fat hog,	$5 00
S Treat, 2d do.	4 vol. Cult.
S. Treat, 3d do.	1 vol. U. A.
E Stenton, best threshing machine,	$5 00
Nathan Havens, ploughed [illegible] acre best and quickest,	$5 00
Time 14 minutes, next 16, 3d 17.	
Austin Hinds, best stallion,	$3 00
W. Erwin, 2d do.,	1 vol. U. A.

Geo. Suffane, best 3 year old colt,	$3 00
B. Crumpacker, 2d do.,	1 vol. U. A.
Jas. McCord, best colt,	1 vol. U. A.
A. Stanton, best brood mare,	4 vol. Cult.
E. Provolt, 2d do.,	1 vol. U. A.
J. B. Steenbergen, best saddle horse,	4 vol. C.
John Brown, 2d do.,	1 vol. U. A.
L. H. Robinson, best draught horse,	4 vol. C.
F. Ames & Cd., best plough,	$2 00
A Melville, 2d do,	$1 00
Mrs. Jane Newkirk, best butter,	$3 00
N. Clusser, 2d best do.,	$2 00
A W. Rogers, 3d do.,	$1 00
Mrs. H. Justice, best flannal,	$5 00
J. Fravel, 2d do.,	$2 00
P. Fall, best piece Janes,	$5 00
A. Blackburn, 2d do.	6 tea spoons
E. Williams, best cheese,	$2 00
M. Bush, 2d do.,	$1 50
L. Cutler, best specimen apples,	$5 00
Miss C. H. Crandal, best silk,	$1 00
J. Fravel, best knit socks,	$1 00
J. H. Andrews, 2d do.,	1 book buck
A. Stanton, best fulled cloth,	$5 00
N. Closser, 2d do.,	1 set tea spoons.
J. Fravel, one quilt,	$1 00
Aaron Staoton, best buck,	$1 00
John Moore jr., 2d do.,	1 vol U. A
Benjamin Beard, best corn, 93 bushels per acre,	$5 00
J. L. Crandal. 2d do., 82,	$3 00
J Fravel, 3d do. 79,	$2 00
Alex. Blackburn, best potatoes, Marino, product 574 bush. per acre,	4 vol Cult.
W. D. Parker, 2d do, 400 bushels to the acre	Mushhonnocks, 1 vol. U. A

On motion, Aaron Stanton, B. Newkirk, and J. L. Crandal, were appointed a committee to wait on Mr. Hathaway and solicit a copy of his address for publication, which was granted.

By order. J. L. CRANDALL,
—Laporte Whig. Recording Secretary.

MORGAN CO.—The editor of the Illinoian says of the recent Fair of this Society:

"The mass of the people assembled on the show ground, was large, and the variety and quality of stock exhibited, fully sustained the reputation which old Morgan has hitherto so deservedly enjoyed."

Much fine stock was exhibited not noticed in the award of premiums. The following is the report of the Secretary, John T. Jones, Esq.:

The Agricultural Society of Illinois held their annual Fair in the town of Jacksonville, on the 28th and 29th of October 1841, when premiums were awarded as follows:

To Geo. Henry, for his stud horse Shakspeare; Elihu Wolcott, 2 years old do. Don Carlos; Matthew Waddall, 1 year do; James Dunlap, brood mare, no competition; same 3 year old filley, do.; Jacob Reddick, 1 year old filley, do.; Matthew Waddall sucking colt roan color; Daniel Smedley, riding horse; James N. Brown, his 3 year old bull Wonder, Durham; W. P. Renshaw, 2 year old bull, Exception, Durham; Daniel Smedley 1 year old bull, Duk Singleton; Samuel Smedley under 1 year old bull; James N. Brown, sow Beauty, same 2 years under 3 Heifer; James Dunlop, 1 yr under 2 do.; James N. Brown, under 1 year do.; James N. Brown, bull calf under 6 months; A. Becraft for his imported White Berkshire boar Robert Peel; Valentine Lidster, for his Irish sow 2 years old; Moore Goltre, for his boar under 12 months, Robert Peel jr.; T D Eames for his Irish sow under 12 months; Cornelius Finley, for his Berkshire boar under 6 months; Benj. D. Forsyth, for his do sow do. do.; Sarah W. Harrison for her bed quilt.

Certificates for the second best, to wit:—To Geo. Henry for his stud horse Marshall Durock; John Green, for his sucking colt; John McClusky, saddle horse; James Dunlap for his bull Sweyer; Abraham Lyter, for his bull Don Juan 2 years old; James D. Smith, for his bull, Reform, 1 year old. same, for his bull Clay, under 1 year; Daniel Smedley, for his cow, Pocksohontus; W. P. Renshaw, for his heifer under 2 years; Wm. Hillem, for his do 1 year old; A. Becraft, for his do under 1 year old; Robert Deaton, for his sucking calf; John C. Crowder, for his Berkshire boar Cuff; E. J. Devore, for his Irish sow upwards of 1 year old; H. Reeve, for his do. boar, under 1 year old; — Ritter, for his sow under one year old; Abraham Lyter, for his boar under 6 months old.

PEORIA CO. MEETING AND FAIR.—The first annual cattle show and fair of the Peoria county agricultural society, was held at Peoria, on Tuesday, Oct. 26, 1841. The weather was very favorable, and the show of animals quite creditable for the first effort. The crowd of persons and citizens afforded abundant evidence of the interest taken in the objects and exhibitions of the society. In the absence of the President Moses Hallan, Esq. was called to the chair, and the several committees made their reports.—Messrs. Alex Dunlap, John Armstrong, and M. Dyncarson, committee on cattle—award Thomas N. Welles and W. Cookle, of French Grove, five dollars for the best bull, Harrison, a rough bred Durham, red and white, out of Triumph and Helen Eyre, belonging to James N. Brown, of Sangamon county, 20 months old.

A reward of 3 dollars to Thomas N. Welles, for the best bull calf, Prince De Joinville, who attracted much attention. He is out of "Lady Byron," and "Triumph, 9 months and 16 days old.

Also, a premium of four dollars to "Lady Byron," as the best milch cow; she is out of the short horn Durham family crossed with the Patton stock.

For the best heifer under two year old, a premium of three dollars, awarded to Washington Cookle, Esq., of French Grove, for the red and white Durham heifer, Bo, eighteen months old, out of the imported Triumph, she is a splendid specimen of the thorough bred Durham.

The show of working cattle was very humble; the committee deemed Amos Stevens entitled to a premium for a pair of large and good looking oxen. Mr. John Lowry, of Peoria, exhibited a fine large red Durham cow, that was much admired. The two year old heifer and calf of G. C. Dana, cross of the Durham and Galloway, showed the blood very strongly—the calf, ten months old, was almost as large as its mother.

Mr. John Hines exhibited a red yearling Durham bull, a very fine animal. Wm. H. Fessenden, Esq., of Charleston, exhibited a beautiful heifer, eighteen months old, of the Hereford and Durham, out of the Hereford cow of Joshua Aiken, and A. M. Hunt's Durham bull—Jackson stock. It is to be regretted that Mr. F. had not driven down some of his fine stock.

The committee on horses, Messrs. H. J. Heaton, A. Shepherd, and G. C. Dana, award to Smith Frye, for the best pair of draft horses five dollars.

To F. S. Kellogg, for the best brood mare $3.

To Robert Kline, for the best 3 year filly, (no competition) a certificate.

To Thomas N Welles, for the best 2 years old filly, (no competition,) a certificate.

There was but one yearling filly exhibited and the committee deem it improper to award in the case.

To Aquilla Wreh, a premium of five dollars for the best Jack. The committee speak very highly of some animals of that family exhibited from Tazewell county.

The display of horses was not so good as might have been expected. Mr. Peter Sweat exhibited a fine span of carriage horses. Mr. Benj. Frye entered a broad mare and foal. Mr Samuel Smith entered a pair of large draft horses. Geo. C. McFadden exhibited a brood mare of the Diamede and Battraod stock. Mr. Isaac Cutter of French Grove, entered a large yearling colt, 14 hands high, out of a Preston mare and imported Perry.

The committee on swine, Messrs P Sweat, C. Cass, and Moses Hallen, Esq. Henry J. Heaton's 3 year old past Berkshire boar, Blackhawk, out of Lossing's imported stock, ruled out on account of age, was considered the best boar.

To Danzel Hollis, for the Berkshire boar, Lord Byron, six years old 11th day of October, out of Flannagan's sow, Lady Tyler, and Berkshire boar Old Tip, of Lossing's imported stock, a premium of five dollars

To Henry J. Heaton's breeding sow, 2 years old past, out of James Heaton's Set, by Lossing's imported Berkshire boar, a premium of two dollars.

To P. Rodgers, 7 mo. old Berkshire sow, out of J. Heaton's stock and Col. Oakley's imported boar, second best, a certificate.

To James Flanagan, for the best pigs, 1 mo thirteen days old, out of his Berkshire sow Lady Tyler and boar Old Tip, who is out of Lossing's imported stock, a premium of three dollars.

To James Heaton, for the second best pigs, out of Berkshire sow Jenny and Blackhawk, a certificate.

To Robert Cline, for a boar pig 6 months old, cross of Irish and Russia with Col. Oakley's imported Berkshire boar, a certificate.

To G. C. Dana, for the second best pigs, out of an Irish sow and his Berkshire boar Tip, a certificate.

The committee on sheep, Messrs. A. Wreh, T. N. Welles, Danzel Hollis, after a careful examination, and taking into consideration the size of the sheep, quality of the wool, &c. conclude that the premium for the best buck is awarded to Henry J. Heaton, for his Southdown buck, 3 years old past, out of the imported stock of E. J. & H. Prentice, of Mount Hope.

The difficulty that the committee had in coming to an agreement, as to awarding the premiums, the whole of the sheep being of so excellent a quality, and such very fine animals, that the society resolved to award certificates to the following gentlemen:—To Mr. James Clark for his imported full blooded Leicestershire buck 3 years old. Also, to Robert Cline, for his Merino buck; and to Mr. John Pennington, for a ewe being across of common and Leicestershire, out of the imported buck of James Clark.

There was not a large display of domestic manufactured articles exhibited. The committee of judges, C. Ballance, C. A. Buck and Samuel Smith, had their attention called to a patent improved fanning mill, manufactured in Peoria, by Wm. M. Nurse. It is an improvement upon his old mill, and is highly adapted to cleaning all kinds of small grain. The committee award him a certificate.

The boggy exhibited by Mr. P. C Mervin, of his own manufacture, in Peoria, almost exclusively of iron and steel, is most certainly a very beautiful, as well as durable carriage, and reflects great credit on the maker, to whom was awarded a certificate.

The report of the committee on prairie fencing, by Edson Harkness, Esq., being so long, it had be to omitted to this publication of the proceedings of the society.

The business of dispensing the premiums to the successful competitors being over, the annual address was delivered by Wm. W. Thompson Esq of Charleston. It was well adapted to the subject and the occasion, and was received by his attentive and delighted audience with much applause. Mr Thompson did not on this occasion, disappoint the high expectations that had been formed of his effort. A copy has been requested by the society for publication, and we hope he may be persuaded to present it to the public clothed in all its truth, beauty and excellence.

The election took place for the officers of the society for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:—

President, THOMAS N. WELLES,
V. Presidents, M. HARLAN, & C. BALLANCE,
Recording secretary, J. C. FRANAGAN,
Corresponding do. AMOS STEVENS,
Treasurer, PETER SWEAT.

Board of Directors.

Smith Frye,	Alva Dunlap,
Henry J Heaton,	A. Oakford,
G. C. Dana,	Washington Cockle,
Calvin Cass,	Danzel Hollis,
C. A. Buck,	James Heaton,
Wm. W. Thompson,	P. Rodgers.

The gentlemen to whom premiums were awarded generously subscribed the amount to raise a fund that the society may be better able to award more premiums next year, for which certificates will be substituted.

Resolved, That the proceedings of the day be published in both the Peoria papers.

On motion adjourned.

J. C. FLANAGAN, Recording Sec.

EDGAR CO.—Till we received the address of W. B. Lodge Esq we were not aware that a society was organized in that county. We are pleased to learn from the address that not only is one organized but they have this fall had a spirited Fair. We shall hope to hear from the Society an account of its proceedings, list of officers &c.

CARROLL CO. (Ia.)—By the Oracle we see a Society is organized in this county. Are the members aware of the existence of the Union Agriculturist? We hope the Secretary will forword a list of its officers, proceedings &c.

JO DAVIESS CO.—The "Diggins" are awake to agricultural improvements, and we are pleased to see by the Gazette they have commenced the organization of a society. Let us hear from it.

MERCER CO.—Hon. H. W. Thornton wrote us sometime since, a society was to be formed in that county. Surely they have not let the thing drop. Hold on to it. It won't bite.

WABASH CO.—This Society held a Fair this fall, but its proceedings have not reached us. Will Mr. Armstroog please see they are sent.

SANGAMON CO.—The Journal containing accounts of the proceedings of this Society at its late fair, has mysteriously disappeared. We should be glad to have an account for publication.

SCHUYLER CO.—Mr. J. D. Maulove promised to keep us informed of the proceedings of this Society, but he has sent us no report.

BOONE CO.—Rev. S. S. Whitmon informs us a Society is to be organized immediately there, or else that county will unite with Winnebago.

IOWA TER.—Are there no Societies organized in Iowa? We receive all the papers regularly, but they contain no notices of agricultural meetings. This should be reformed.

MILWAUKEE CO. W. T.—We see by the Sentinel, they are making a move at Milwaukee to start an agricultural society. "Don't give up the ship."

The editor thus speaks of the agricultural interest there. We can assert that agricultural publications are taken, and doubtless read.

"In Wisconsin, (the eastern portion in particular) agriculture is the great business of the people, and our farmers are behind none in the country in energy and enterprise;" and even at this early day we can boast of some as fine farms as any portion of the country. Great attention is paid to the improvement of stock, and some of the choicest breeds of hogs and cattle are now found among us. There is perhaps no part of the land where agricultural publications are more generally read than in Wisconsin, and the day is not far distant when she will be one of the first and most important agricultural districts in the United States."

P S. In a more recent number the editor pays the Union Agriculturist a very high compliment, and a correspondent, "Terra-cultur," strongly recommends it to the patronage of Wisconsin farmers. The subject of an agricultural society is again ably noticed; and we shall expect to see as the result of these efforts, a most efficient society speedily organized.

WORCESTER CO. (Mass.) FAIR.—The Boston agricultural papers give a lively description of the Cattle Show and Fair of this old Society, from which it appears to have been at least equal in interest to any previous one. They had some of the "big guns" to speak, among which we see the names of Gov. Lincoln, President of the Society, Gov. Davis, Hon. Daniel Webster, Col. Wilder, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Robinson.

NEW HAVEN CO., CONN.—The Farmer's Gazette states the amount of premiums awarded by the N. H. co. Agricultural Society to be $463; and by the Horticultural Society to be $272, *seven hundred thirty-five dollars* in all.

WINTERING ANIMALS.—*The Horse.*—This animal does best in a warm stall in the cold winter nights, and a good blanket does him no harm. Indeed he will improve more in appearance by sleeping under a blanket, than by eating an additional quart of grain per day.

Pigs.—It is difficult to make them thrive unless they are protected from the cold. In a good warm cellar, store pigs will gain from 30 to 50 per cent more during the winter months upon the same keeping, than they will in a common pig-pen above ground. Where a farmer keeps half a dozen store pigs, their additional growth will pay him the interest on $150 unlay in fixing for them a good warm cellar into which little if any frost shall enter. If this cellar shall receive the manure from the horse stable, the pigs will get from that an invigorating and nutritious warmth. Do the best you can to keep your pigs warm. Do it for *mercy's* sake—and do it for profit's sake.

Cows.—As soon as the nights grow quite cool, let your milch cows have a shelter, either in the barn or in good sheds. Sensations of cold and shivering are never accompanied by a good flow of milk.—*New England Farmer.*

BEETS FOR CATTLE.—As experience, and not speculation, is what farmers need, I will give my observation in feeding beets to my cows during the two past winters.

In 1838, I put up about 300 bushels of mangel wurtzel beets, 100 bushels of turnips, and some potatoes, for the purpose of experimenting in feeding my cattle through the winter. I knew nothing on the subject but what I learned from books, as I was acquainted with no farmers (nor am I yet,) who fed with roots. At first I was at a loss to know how to feed them—whether in a raw state or cooked—but having determined to try both plans, I commenced the work, and each did well. Young animals are peculiarly fond of the raw beets and thrive astonishingly on them; but for cows that give milk, they are better boiled, particularly if a steamer can be used in the process. Though milk cows should have raw beets once in every two or three days if grass cannot be had.

The turnips and potatoes were given precisely as the beets: but I could not determine that either had the preference over the other, as the cows gave about the same quantity of milk, and their condition did not seem changed by either. In feeding the same animal with beets, it was easily told that one third less than of the turnips or potatoes would make them give the same quantity of milk, of better quality, and they showed better keep. The beets made the milk better, the better better, and the cows looked much better. On one half bushel of beets per day to each cow, without straw, and a little meal or bran mixed in, they continued in a good condition through the winter, gave as much milk as in the summer, and the butter was full as good as in May.—*Western paper.*

DECEIVING CHILDREN.—Dr. B. was called to visit a sick boy, twelve years of age. As he entered the house, the mother took him aside and told him she could not get her boy to take any medicine, except she deceived him.

"Well, then," said Dr. B., "I shall not give him any. He is old enough to be reasoned with."

He went to the boy, and after an examination, said to him, "my little man, you are very sick, and must take some medicine. It will make you feel bad for a little while, and then I expect it will make you feel better."

The doctor prepared the medicine, and the boy took it like a man, without any resistance, and he would take from his mother any thing that the physician had prescribed, but would take nothing else from her. She had so often deceived him, and told him "it was good," when she gave him medicines, that he would not trust to any thing she said. But he saw at once that Dr. B. was telling him the truth, and he trusted him. He knew when he took the bitter draught, just what to expect.

This simple incident contains instruction of deep and solemn importance, deserving the careful consideration of every parent. "Honesty" with children, as well as with others, and in all circumstances, is the best policy."—*Selected.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We would thank Edson Harkness Esqr. to send us a copy of his report upon prairie fencing, made to the Peoria Co. Society at its late meeting.

The communications of Messrs. E. Baldwin and D. C. Underhill are received.

For the next three or four weeks we want our correspondents to bestir themselves, and send us some excellent communications for the first numbers of the next volume.

Letters have been received from the following persons, not previously noticed: H. Phoenix 2, Phoenix Mills, W. T.; Adnah Williams, Galesburg; Samuel W. Lucas, Jacksonville; S. S Whitmon, Belvidere; E. W. Brewster, Elgin; C. W. Lee, 2, Kishwaukee; J. W. Helme, Briton; Wm. W. Dudley, Lyndon, Whiteside co.; J. Whitney, 2, Vermillionville; M. Stover, Whitehall, Io.; George Churchill, Ridge Prairie; R. C. Bushnel, Tyler, Winnebago co.; Gideon Freeborn, N. Y.; Hovey & Co. Boston; A. Stevens, Peoria; John King, [Dubuque, Iowa Ter.; Charles Patton, Io. Fox.

STOVES FOR SALE.

A RAILWAY COOK STOVE, with Copper Furniture, complete.
A LARGE FRANKLIN STOVE.
A WILSON COOK STOVE.

They have all been used some, and will be sold for Cash or Produce.

J. S. & T. WRIGHT.

AGRICULTURAL REPOSITORY.

THE UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY has now opened its REPOSITORY at 112 Lake Street, and consignments are solicited of

GRAINS, ROOTS, AND SEEDS of all kinds.
FRUIT TREES AND SHRUBBERY,
GARDENING AND FARMING
IMPLEMENTS, AND MACHINES

Either common or patented, and anything useful in AGRICULTURE.

Commissions for the purchase or sale of valuable animals, will receive particular attention.

Communications, *post-paid*, may be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary Un. Agr. Soc.

FOR SALE, a BERKSHIRE SOW, nearly three years old with some full blood pigs, 8 weeks old; a NEAPOLITAN SOW two years old, and a LEICESTERSHIRE SOW one year old; the two last with pig by NICOLAS a full blood Berkshire Boar, who is also for sale. J. S. & T. WRIGHT.

The Union Agriculturist

AND WESTERN PRAIRIE FARMER.

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THE UNION AGRICULTURIST.

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Terms.—The Union Agriculturist will be published the first week in each month at one dollar per annum, *payable invariably in advance.* Those procuring subscribers out of the district of the U. A. S., will be entitled to every sixth copy gratis. Clubs of six, receiving their papers at one office, shall receive six copies for one year upon remitting five dollars. ☞ No communications will receive attention, *unless post paid.* Some subscribers in remitting their dollar, pay only single postage. In such cases we have to pay postage also, and it will always be deducted from the year's subscription. Those remitting can save themselves the postage, by asking the P. M. to frank the letters, who is fully authorized by the P. M. General to do it.

Communications, Papers, Addresses, &c., should be directed to the "Union Agriculturist."

Advertisements of an agricultural character, will be inserted at $1.50 for a square of 15 lines or under, for the first insertion, $1 for the second, and 75 cents for each subsequent one, *payable in advance.* Yearly advertisers allowed one square upon paying $8.

Culture of the Grape.—The Louisville Advertiser contains an interesting communication from Mr. D. L. Summers, of Clark county, Indiana, on the subject of the grape culture in this country. That paper gives the establishment of Mr. Davis, spoken of below, is one of the most extensive in the Western country, and is probably the only one where wine of a superior quality is produced We believe the grape was at one time cultivated to some extent at Kaskaskia, in this State, but do not know that any attempt to get up a vineyard has ever been made in the Northern or middle parts of Illinois.

Why may not someone or why may not many of our citizens, who have the facilities, engage in planting a vineyard; if not for profit, let it be done with a view to health, comfort and pleasure. These considerations should not be overlooked, and although it will be a taxing every farmer, and owner of a house and lot of ground, to commence a vineyard, all ought to have gardens, and what is a garden without vines? A few, at even one would add to the enjoyments of life — The Catawba grape, the Isabella, and probably many other kinds, could without doubt be produced here as readily as they are produced in the same latitude in other States—indeed, nature gives us the strongest assurance of this in the spontaneous production of a variety of wild grapes in every direction in this section of country. But to the communication. We will extract only so much of it as relates particularly to Mr. Davis's experiments.—(*Louisville Press.*)

Utica, Clark county, Indiana,
October 16th, 1841.

There is an old gentleman from Switzerland living in the neighborhood of Utica, Indiana, by the name of John Davis, who had been a cultivator of the vine in the mountains of his native country for many years previous to his emigration to America; and is consequently familiar with all the modus operandi of producing the grape, as well as the process of manufacturing and preserving the wine. About six years ago, Mr. Davis began to experiment upon the growth of the vine in the vicinity of this place by planting one and a half acres of the least productive land upon the farm in slips of the Catawba grape, at the same time expressing the most confident hope of realizing in the course of a few years an adequate remuneration for his labor and cost in the enterprize, which experimental zeal was then viewed by his immediate neighbors as rather enthusiastic than wise, and much too weighty for the different persons of judgment and experience, in reference to the undertaking, calculated to discourage it. However, this old Swiss mountain vine dresser continued to cultivate his vineyard with unabating industry for four years, when he gathered from it as much only sufficient to make one gallon of wine, which was considered by those unacquainted with the business, anything else than a satisfactory earnest of the future; and but a poor equivalent for so many years of labor and attention.

In the spring of 1840, the writer was in his vineyard, it then being only five years old, about the time the buds began to assume the form of grapes, and hung in bunches on the vines, which were so fine as they could bear from one end to the other of the row presenting to view one of the most delightful prospects that I ever witnessed, and seemed to promise at the coming fall an fulfilment of the highest expectations; but the season soon after became unusually damp and rainy, and, as all will recollect, continued so for several weeks with scarcely any intervals of sunshine, a kind of weather very unfavorable to the growth of grape buds, particularly in so young a vineyard, which blasted nearly the whole crop, causing the tender germs to fall to the ground, a circumstance that may not occur again in a great number of years. Yet notwithstanding this apparently entire failure, when the time came around for gathering in the matured fruits of autumn, the proprietor had the gratification of passing through this little vine patch, which in the antecedent spring seemed to be stripped of its last promise for that year, by the protracted wet weather, to see at almost every step luxurious clusters of the most delicious Catawbas peeping from behind their leafy curtains in red and full perfection, ready for the squeeze: of which he gathered a quantity sufficient to make between sixty and seventy gallons of excellent wine. Itself is excellent, that is according to my judgment of the quality of that kind of liquor, having drank it frequently, at the same time tasting other (imported) wine, in order to contrast their superior qualities. I have tasted very little, even of the best importations superior to it, or that retained the native flavor of the grape in higher perfection. However, it is the present year's production that I would most especially invite your notice, as it certainly surpasses any thing in that line of husbandry, that has ever been effected in this immediate portion of the West, and it is also of some importance to the producing part of the community, as it has always been the great desideratum in the agricultural department, to ascertain how the productiveness of labor might be increased; whether it be by a change in the kind or in the application of labor, or in the kind of production, is a point of immediate ity as far as the main question is concerned. If, when a given quantity of labor is bestowed upon one acre of land in the cultivation of one kind of produce, one hundred dollars worth will grow, we can by planting another kind with the same labor, in the same area of ground, cause five hundred dollars worth to grow, we see at once that in or end is accomplished, that we have shewn by what means the productiveness of labor is greatly increased without the increase of that labor which produces it. This result I have seen in reality accomplished this year, in the cultivation of the Catawba grape. The vineyard, including one and a half acres of land, to which I had reference in the foregoing part of this communication, is now only six years of age. There are, however in the whole enclosure, somewhere about seven acres planted in vines, though none of sufficient age, to bear any grapes at all, only the part to which was added out one and a half acres. About the 20th of September last, the proprietor invited me to see his vineyard, stating that it was then full of good fruit. The invitation was accordingly accepted, and on arriving at my destination, I saw the climax of all the sights I ever beheld. What was it? An acre and a half of vineyard full of grapes? No, sir; but emphatically an acre and a half of grapes, the largest, plumpest, and best flavored grape I ever tasted, and so great was the exuberance, that in walking between the rows, this clusters of all sizes hung on both sides in clusters so dense, that the eye could scarcely penetrate between them! Commencing about two feet above the ground and extending to near six in height, presenting to the eye a scene of prosperous beauty far beyond the wildest dreams of rural fancy, and infinitely beyond my powers of description, to delineate, but would refer the reader of the most exalted taste and imagination, to depict even a faint shade of the reality.

This may seem to some to be an exaggerated picture of the case but I am well assured that the very tip of what I have thus imperfectly written can be fully established by the testimony of hundreds of eye witnesses that visited the place, many of whom were citizens of Louisville. And I wish you could have found it convenient to have made it even that if I must into the land of Hamsters, and seen it yourself, before the vines were stripped of their rich luxuriance, and I feel sure that your testimony would corroborate the truth of every sentence in this communication, upon the subject. But to return the fellow will now had arrived for grape gathering and, wine making; and like old Swiss experimenter, now for dear information of putting the enterprize of vine culture in this country to the test in a fair trial, the result of which was that he was engaged for several weeks in gathering and pressing his grapes, which yielded from the pieces, the enormous quantity of one thousand nine hundred and seventy gallons of wine, an object the fine juice of the grape, a quantity (me proper or says) exceeding the rain out of any crop that he ever saw grow in Europe, and far surpassing his most sanguine anticipations, and going beyond all possibility of cavil, that the climate and soil in certain portions of our vast territory, at least, are as well adapted to the production of some kinds of grape, as France or Switzerland, and that to give it entire success in this country, it only wants a little more experience with persons engaged in the cause—it may, however, in order to succeed, receive an encouragement sufficient to justify enterprising men in devoting their capital, time and attention, to its only increment; without this, no enterprise can ever be either undertaken or matured.

Names applied to Sheep.—In the article we are publishing about the diseases of sheep, there are several names new to us; and as some of our readers may be ignorant of their meaning, we publish the following explanations. We did not know a *sh ep* was ever made a *hog* of.

"The age of sheep is never dated by the time that they are dropped, as that would be attended with many inconveniences, but from the time that they are first subjected to the shears, by which means the first year includes a period of fifteen or sixteen months.

The following is a condensed arrangement of the names by which sheep are designated, at different periods of their existence, in various parts of England and Scotland:

From Birth till Weaning.

Male—Tup, Ram lamb, Hoster, Pne.
Female—Ewe or Gimmer lamb, Chilver.

From Weaning till the first Clip.

Male—Hog, Hogget, Haggard, Teg, Lamb hog, Tup hog, Girding, and, if castrated, a Wether hog.
Female—Gimmer hog, Ewe hog, Teg, Sheder ewe, Thrave.

From first to the second Clip

Male.—Shearling, Shear hog, Herder, Die month or Dinmont ram, or tup, and, when castrated, a Shearing wether.
Female.—Shearing ewe or gimmer, Double-toothed ewe or Teg, Yill gimmer.

From second till third Clip

Male.—Two year ram, young wedder.
Female—Two shear ewe, Counter.

From third till fourth Clip.

Male.—Three shear ram, old wedder.
Female—Three shear ewe, Frontier.

And so on, the name always taking its date from the time of shearing. Broken-mouthed sheep are called *crones* in Suffolk and Norfolk, *brakes* in Galloway in Scotland, and *dr p s* in Lincolnshire. Scotland ewes which are neither with lamb, suckling, nor giving milk, are said to be *cold* or *yeld.*

Prairie Soils can be exhausted.—The following observations were made by that sound, practical agriculturist, Gov. Hill, in a late agricultural address delivered by him in Maine; and does it not become us to be warned *before hand* of our best course? There is no question as to the correctness of the remarks, and we challenge the farmers of the West will take warning in time. Stir each other up to the importance of manuring, by frequent communications upon the subject.

"The surplus produce of Maine from the field of the farmer may not appear like that of the wheat-growing States of the West. But notwithstanding the unsurpassable fertility of that region, I am convinced that even there, in the present mode of cultivation, the land must soon, or later become exhausted. When land once runs out, as it already has in Virginia and Maryland, and even at some of the best points in Western New York it is much har er remunerating it there than in New England. The southern planters grow so many acres, that with them manuring for a crop is out of the question, and when their ground fails, the more ground cultivated, the greater will become the poverty of the improvident farmer. Plantations in the Atlantic seaboard, in Virginia and the Carolinas, have been abandoned by their owners, because the produce thus will not cover the expense of carrying them on."

Locusts.—We published in our last, a paper from Mr. Robert Baker, England, upon the nature of this exe inst, though with de. neg ected gens. Since then we have paid a flying to Mr. Berg near our farm near this city, where we had the pleasure of seeing a patch of about a third of an acre, and it is pleasing to learn that it had fully realized the highest expectations which their general appearance, as to value as a seeding grass, and as a crop, had led us to form. We also learned that the time which we allotted a home, should last five or six cuttings the present spring, and however, still yielding well at each cutting. These changes of an acre or two of this grass, when done, can be used as green meat for the working horses and milch cows, which cannot be too highly appreciated, and we would again urge it upon our brethren, to make the necessary arrangements this season, to set a small quantity of ground next spring with it.—*Amer. Farmer.*

To Post Masters.—We forwarded with the last No. to the post-masters, copies of the prospectus for the next volume, which we hope are this, are put up in the most public places. We also forward them with this No. one page of the same on an extra sheet, which we hope they will listen to the bottom of the prospectus. We are willing to have the paper judged by its contents, and the plan of the paper will be readily perceived by a glance at the index.

Not only have copies of the prospectus been forwarded to every post-office where there are subscribers, but to every other in the West that we could learn the name of; and we would thank those feeling an interest in the paper, to see the prospectus is put up where it may be seen. Occasionally a post-master may be too much occupied to attend to it himself.

Castor Beans.—We wish some one having plenty of seed to spare, would send a quantity to the Repository for sale

☞ Owing to the great labor of preparing the index, this No has been delayed from the 5th when we intended it should have been out, till the 14th. At least ten days of faithful labor has been put upon it, in making it out and comparing the proofs; and it is believed to be correct. Let no one complain of it occupying too much room. The two last pages are the most valuable in the volume. We could not get it in two pages of Brevier type, and we have therefore used Nonpareil at considerable additional expense.

The Rich to Help the Poor.—When in the country last summer, one farmer said he for wanted the first of Jany each year, ten dollars for twelve, copies of an Eastern agricultural paper, all sent to his address, and on which he paid the postage. These he distributed to his poor neighbors, who were unable to pay the cash for the paper, and let them work for him, when they could spare the time, sufficient to pay the postage and the dollar. Another one told me he forwarded five dollars, and used the copies in the same way.

Now are there not many of our present subscribers who will do the by this paper. There will be no loss to them, the work they need; and many would be enabled to take the paper who would otherwise have to do without it. Many a poor farmer actually needs such a paper to afford reading matter for his family; and to them it would be an act of pure benevolence for you to furnish them with it in this manner.—Reader, will you not try the plan for one year?

New Genesee Farmer.—We regret to see that Mr Bateman, the principal editor of this paper, be obliged to retire from the editorial chair on account of ill health. The publication of it will still be continued; and for this, as well as all other publications, we shall be pleased to act as agent, and will forward the money without expense.

Advertising.—To assist in the enlargement of the paper some of our merchants have agreed to advertise in it, and many more will when it is named to them. One page of advertisements would hab much; and we suppose subscribers will not be displeased with our using one page in this way, 4, by the means, they get three pages more of reading matter. Our paper is valuable for advertising on its one account—it is preserved, and a person sees an advertisement in it subsequent to its first perusal. Its circulation is increasing considerably, and within six months will probably be greater than any other paper in the West.

The Irish Gentlemen at Naperville.—Mr Ellsworth desired us to say that he bought the saw mills for $150; and Genl. Bill the hon Daniel O'Connell for $100. Judith has had a litter of pigs, all but two of which are sold.

The Meeting at Naperville.—A meeting will be held at Naperville, on Tuesday the 28th of December inst. at the Board of Managers, when business of importance will be transacted. Unless every member is present, nothing can be done. The meeting will be held at 2 o'clock P. M. The Board consists of Messrs Ellsworth, Walker, Andersen, Hubbard and West.

The Committee on Fairs consisting of Messrs. G. Burrell, G. P. Sanger, J. T. Gifford, Harry Brandman and J. A. Gooding, are also requested to attend at that time to make preliminary arrangements for the next Fair, which shall be finally completed at the meeting to be held at Chicago in February.

Scott county is passing through a corner of the county a year since, we learned that an agricultural society was organized there, but none has taken the trouble to inform us of its doings. Then we are rather surprised at having quite a number of subscribers there. We will look some of them to forward a list of officers &c. for publication in the Union, number

Tour of an American Stock Breeder.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Spirit of the Times.

New-York October 22, 1841.

I have just had the pleasure of an interesting conversation with my friend A. B Allen, Esq., of Buffalo, New-York, who returned last week in the London packet ship "Hendrick Hudson," from an *Agricultural Tour in England*. Supposing that your readers would like to hear a little about Mr. Allen's movements, I send you a hasty line.

He says that there is nothing abroad that will compare with our unrivalled *Roadsters* and *Trotters*, and that if we continue to cultivate the breed with care, embracing such stock as Abdallah's, Bellfounder's, Messengers, &c. we may eventually become large exporters. Many inquiries were addressed to him, on various occasions respecting them, and he has brought home orders to purchase a few stylish ones. I observe that the London "Farmer's Magazine" has called upon Brother Jonathan to make a show of his trotters at the next meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, and as it is open to the whole world, I trust that some of our spirited breeders will do so next year at the annual meeting in July, in Bristol.

The English cart horse Mr. A. also thinks inferior to the great Pennsylvania wagon horse, and is of opinion that our racers he chave more game or bottom than theirs, and would beat them in heats of three or four miles. Our soil and climate are decidedly superior for the perfection of this noble animal to those of England, especially on this side of the Alleghanies.

Of Short Horns, he seems to think that there is but one mare herd in England that it is worth while for us hereafter to import from; and throwing out the stock of three breeders, New-York, Ohio and Kentucky, would advantageously exhibit against all England. There are other breeds of horned cattle which he estimated highly; as the Hereford, the Sussex, Devon, Ayrshire, and Scotch Highlanders.

Mr. Rotch had previously imported very superior South Down Sheep from the celebrated flocks of the Duke of Richmond, Mr. Grantham, Mr. Elman, and others, and those now arrived cannot but prove a valuable close upon them.—A beautiful Shepherd's dog for Mr. Rotch also accompanies these sheep, of a breed so superior that it requires no breaking in for the management of the woolly flock.

I was much pleased with the famous Dorking fowls, that, like Goliah, have an extra toe, and at occasionally to the great weight of 8 lbs.—Some beautiful pheasants, the game bird of England, and the cross of which on the common barn fowl produces the game cock, are among the importation.

In swine, Mr. Allen went into a thorough examination, from the different species of the wild boar from Asia, and the forests of Germany, kept in the Zoological Garlone, and various kinds of Chinese, to all the pro ! approved breeds of England. He pronounces the Berkshire as uniting more good qualities in himself than any other; and as size in them has been generally called for at the West, he has brought home specimens that stand three feet high, &c. of corresponding length, and will easily fat to 800 lbs. but for fear this should not be large enough, he has added the great Kentucky breed of the London "Farmer's Journal" asserts will fat to the enormous weight of 1,700 lbs.

Mr. Allen thinks 1,300 lbs. will be the maximum, but adds, with naivete of expression, "if this does not prove large enough for the South west, I will next year import a Rhinoceros that swings three tons!" But I fancy that there will be no necessity for this, and that the advocates for size will cry out "enough!" The Kentuckians are really a good shape, their color is white.

In sheep, England has nothing to compare with our fine Saxon and Merino, the long wool tribe, such as the Leicesters, Cotswolds, and New Oxford, we only want a few, but of the South Downs he speaks very highly. Their mutton is far superior to their wool; the enough for all family purposes. They are also of a very hardy character, and possess the best of constitutions. Of those he has brought out a few for Francis Rotch, Esq., of Batten's, Otsego county, New-York; for our late minister at the Court of St. James; and for the right Rev. Bishop Meade, of Va. They were carried from the flock of Mr. Jonas Webb, of Babraham, who carried off all the valuable prizes at the Royal Agricultural Show at Liverpool. They are of great size for South Downs. Mr. Rotch's bark lamb weighed in the scales, when put on board ship, and only six months old, 143 pounds; Bishop Meade's eighteen months old 249 lbs;—and Mr. Stevenson's same age 251 pounds.—Mr. Webb killed a wether last Christmas that weighed, dressed, with the head on 300 pounds; and his bucks usually shear from ten to eleven and a half pounds of wool, of a quality of about three fourths blood Merino. To show the value of these high bred animals abroad, the sire of Mr. Rotch's lamb was let to the Duke of New Castle, for this season alone, at one hundred guineas; and I learn that the price of those brought over by Mr. Allen is one hundred guineas a head.

The white and light spotted *improved Berkshires* he pronounces spurious breeds, and of far inferior quality and shape. The two animals is just as one thousand times described in the and kindred journals, viz. black, or a dark rich plum color, with a slight flecking of white; and occasionally, though rarely, the fleckery may be sandy, or of buff color, preserved from the old originals.

He has selected stock from all the best families in Berkshire, and the neighboring counties that breed them, which he will keep apart at home, and thus prevent the necessity of again importing for years. He found good ones scarce and high, and was obliged personally to look over several thousand head, and parambulate extensively in every direction; this large tier of counties, before completing his selections, notwithstanding his employment of several agents and the most extensive dealers to assist him.

In seeds he found the British farmer quite as careful in selecting for sowing as in choosing breeders for his stock—a matter now little attended to at home. The implements of husbandry he thought generally cumbersome, complex, and needless and expencive. Some things, notwithstanding, would be worthy of American adoption.

Of the corn laws he does not think there will be any modification that can substantially benefit us, though Sir Robert Peel, in order to quiet the manufacturers, may propose a small abatement of duty. But Mr. Allen takes the stocking ground, that, if he would benefit America's benefit alone, he would make them to stand just as they do now; and he defends this position by saying that it would greatly promote emigration of worthy, substantial people, and that the population, wealth, and strength thereby procured to America would be much greater than if the ports of Great Britain were open to the importation of grain. I shall look hereafter with interest to Mr. Allen's extended views upon this hitherto little understood and most important national subject.

On the different ranks of people in England, their condition, living, &c., and other interesting topics, we held much conversation; but I have extended my article too much already; and I am happy to say Mr. Allen will soon favor the public with notes of his tour. So I forbear, only acknowledging my obligations to him for his prompt and frank manner of replying to my various and minute inquiries.

Yours, truly,

J. O. C.

Address of B. F. Lodge, Esq.—The first No of the Western Pilot, contains a most excellent address by B. F. Lodge, Esq., delivered before the Edgar County Society in Paris, held the 15th Oct. From it we make a few extracts, our room not permitting it to be inserted entire:

Permanent Pasturage.—"There is another matter to which I would call your attention, and which I consider all important to the farming interest of this country, viz: the cultivation of such grasses as will afford pasturage for stock in winter; for just so long as we continue our present practice of feeding out in winter the produce of our summer's labor, to sustain our stock in living order, just so long shall we continue to make but puny strides towards independence.

"Blue grass is doubtless among the best, if not the very best grass that can be obtained for this purpose; and it has been sufficiently tried here to prove that it will do well in this soil and climate; indeed it may be considered indigenous for in many cases where the prairie grass has been feeden out, blue grass grows spontaneously."

Pasturage for Hogs.—"With regard to raising of hogs, we shall I think find it necessary to provide pastures for them also, to make it a profitable business. By sowing down a part of our farms to clover, we shall effect two important objects; the raising of hogs at a much less expense than by feeding them grain, all the year; and at the same time resuscitate our exhausted land; as clover is the best grass known for either purpose. If I am correct in this matter, why do we hesitate? If we can by this process raise our pork for—say one fourth less, and at the same time restore our lands to their former state of productiveness, why not enter upon the good work at once? What say you, farmers of Edgar? Shall we as one man come up to the task, and resolve that, let others do as they may, Edgar County shall stand as No. 1, in the state of Illinois, for fine stock, and agricultural improvement?"

Hemp and Tobacco.—"There is not perhaps a single farmer in this county but could, in addition to his usual crops of grain, cultivate say two acres at least of hemp and tobacco; the former requires no more labor to put it in, than oats or any other small grain; nour which it needs no attention until the corn crop is laid by and the harvest over, when it may be pulled or cut, cured, and laid down to rot during the leisure we always secure between harvest and fall feeding time; the balance of the work may be done in the winter when nothing else interferes. Thus by a little additional labor, each farmer in this county may add from fifty to one hundred dollars to his ordinary business. Eight hundred weight of hemp may be obtained from one acre of land at a moderate calculation; under favorable circumstances, ten hundred have been frequently obtained. But assuming eight hundred as the average crop, and five dollars per hundred as the average price, which will be found nearly correct, we have $40 in cash as the result of the emphyment of two acres of land, and from four to six weeks' labor, and that performed mostly at a time of the year when little or no other work can be done. I sold fourteen hundred weight of hemp this summer in Terre Haute, for eight dollars per hundred, and that for cash or very short credit. No crop perhaps exhausts the soil more slowly than hemp; and no crop leaves the land in better order for a succeeding crop of any kind; extirpating all weeds and other plants by its overshadowing luxuriance. We have the following on the authority of Henry Clay, who says, 'An old and successful cultivator told me that he had taken thirteen or fourteen successive crops from the same field, and that the last was the best.' I am aware that many farmers look upon the labor of cultivating and breaking hemp with some distaste, and think they can get along well enough by raising merely a crop of corn, but I think if they would try the experiment of adding from fifty to one hundred dollars annually to their present incomes, the many additional comforts they might enjoy, would richly compensate them for the extra labor bestowed.

"As to tobacco, I have no data on which to base any particular calculations; but I am aware that many farmers in this county have cultivated, and continue to cultivate it with much success. I would therefore recommend the extension of this culture among us; as much of the labor of this crop also may be performed at such times as not to interfere materially with regular crops."

"*The rearing of Sheep*, also, I think should engage more of our attention than it has as yet. If wool can be grown at the East at a profit, where land is dear and pasture is comparatively scarce, it certainly can be produced here to greater advantage; as three cents on the pound at most will enable us to compete with the Eastern growers in their own market, which to a small discount from the value of the article."

USEFUL RECIPES.

Diseases of Sheep, *continued from page 86.*—*Staggers* — The symptoms nearly resemble those of sturdy, which I have afterwords to describe, and with which indeed I might have classed it, were it not that it appears to be merely the result of a poisonous plant being taken into the stomach. It is rarely seen horeabouts; I shall, therefore, quote the account of it presented to the Highland Society by Mr. Stevenson:—"This is a disease seldom or never affecting the sheep in this country, those excepte which feed in forests, or amongst planting. The symptoms of it are more violent than those of sturdy, during the time of their continuance.—The animal, after staggering for some time, falls on the ground, when a general trambling comes on over the limbs; they are violently convulsed, and quite insensible to every thing. During the continuance of the paroxysm they throw the body into various positions, and sometimes roll to a considerable distance. The fit continues for a quarter, sometimes half an hour, or an hour. When they rise, they seem perfectly bewildered, till they regain the flock, when they continue to feed well until another paroxysm supervenes. This disease appears in Autumn, and various causes are said to produce it. Improper food, the leaves of the oak, from their astringent quality, cob-webs sprinkled with dew, have all been reckoned as causes. I am inclined however, to suppose, that it arises from poisonous grass (*Lolium temulentum,*) which is the only one of that description in this country, and grows only in those situations where staggers prevail. What effect these causes have on the brain to produce this disease, I cannot explain. When it continues for any time on the same individual, it is apt to be fatal."

"Change of pasture is the only effectual cure for it."

Diarrhœa.—By this is meant a constant purging, affecting the younger portions of the flock, between April and June, leading to great emaciation, and proceeding from one of the following causes

1st Eating a soft rathy pasture, particularly if fouled by the inundations of the previous winter.

2d. Feeding on too rich a pasture, or a sudden change from an herbage deficient in nutritive qualities, to one that is more superior.

3d. Transitions from heat to cold.

4th Weakness and relaxation of the bowels.

Treatment of Diarrhœa.—When either of the first two causes has given rise to purging, a moderate allowance of good hay will gradually stop it. This may be discontinued when the sheep has *taken* with its altered fare. When diarrhœa has been occasioned by exposure to damp, or sudden transitions from heat to cold, it may be arrested by keeping the animal in a house for a few days, and feeding it on any dry aliment, but when crude trashy matter has been swallowed, and keeps up irritation by its presence, medicine must be resorted to. Administer an ounce of castor oil in gruel, adding twenty drops of laudanum if there has been straining or evidences of pain. When the bowels have been *thoroughly cleared* by this cathartic, it will be proper, if the discharge still continue, to check it by astringents. The medicine found by experience to answer best, is prepared as follows:—Take of Logwood four ounces, Extract Catechu (Japan earth) one drachm, Cinnamon two drachms. Water three English pints. Boil for a quarter of an hour, strain, and then add sixty drops of Laudanum. Administer half an English pint of this, night and morning, so long as flux continues.

Diarrhœa seldom proves fatal, and is indeed an easily managed disease; but it is frequently only a symptom of some other affection, or a critical effort of the constitution to ward off some more serious mischief, the attempt at stopping it should always be cautiously conducted.

Dysentery—Symptoms.—The pulse is quick and the respirations hurried. The skin is harsh and hot, and the wool in general clapped. The mouth is dry, the eyes red and languid, and the ears drooping. Food is taken only in small quantities and rumination is stopped. The discharges from the bowels are frequent, slimy, sometimes green, and a little further on in the disease are mixed with blood. The belly is drawn towards the back. It is knotted and lumpy to the touch, and a rumbling noise (*borborygmus*) is heard within it. As a careless observer might have some difficulty in distinguishing dysentery from diarrhœa the following diagnostic summary, drawn up by Professor Dun-

can, will be found of service:

1. Diarrhœa attacks chiefly hogs and weak gimmors and dimmonts; whereas dysentery is frequent among older sheep.

2. Diarrhœa almost always occurs in the spring, and ceases about June, when dysentery only commences.

3 In diarrhœa there is no fever or tenesmus, or pain before the stools as in dysentery.

4. In diarrhœa, the fæces are loose, but in other respects natural, without any blood or slime, whereas in dysentery, the feces consists of hard lumps passed occacionally without any blood or slime.

5. There is not that degree of fœtor in the fæces in diarrhœa which takes place in dysentery.

6. In dysentery the appetite is totally gone, in diarrhœa it is rather sharper than usual.

7. In dysentery, the animal wastes rapidly, but by diarrhœa only a temporary stop is put to its thriving, after which it makes rapid advances to strength, vigor and proportion.

"If dysentery continue to advance it will terminate fatally within a fortnight. It is generally preceded by the "*black scour*," which is only an agravation of the purging, the stools being mixed with shreds of dark gangrenous matter from the decomposed interior of the intestines.

Causes of Dysentery.—Many absurd opinions have gone abroad regarding the contagious nature of this affection. Contagion, however, has nothing to do with the matter, the spread of the disease depending entirely upon the state of the atmosphere and the nature of the locality.—When dysentery occurs, the weather is usually sultry, the ground upon which the flock has been going, foul, and the management of the sheep so improper, as to be sufficient of itself to produce the disease very generally. There is in fact only one proof of a disease being infectious, viz., its immediate occurrence on the introduction of an affected animal among such as are in good health, on sound food, and in easy circumstances. The proof, however, in regard to dysentery has never been established, and no medical person will now affirm that it is contagious.—Some think that it travels from flock to flock in the direction of the wind, but its appearing simultaneously in many folds ought rather to be charged to the fact of the predisposing causes being nearly similar in all.

Treatment of Dysentery.—Bleed freely if the disease has continued only for a few days, but moderately if a longer time has unfortunately elapsed. Storing, by which is meant shutting the animal in a wash-house, and allowing the apartment to become filled with steam, though urged by some writers, cannot here be recommended. The intended object is the promotion of perspiration, by exciting the action of the skin, but this may be brought about by means much more conducive to the safety of the animal. After the bleeding unsparing the sheep in a tub of hot water, and retain it there for twenty minutes; then administer an ounce of castor oil, with thirty drops of laudanum, and cover the sheep up in a snug corner. After the oil has operated, thin well-boiled flour-porridge, given at intervals, in small quantities, will help defend the ulcerated bowels, soothe the pain and stop purging. If these fail, you may use the astringent mixture recommended in diarrhœa as above, and in the same manner, adding to each dose a grain of ipecacuanha. When the appetite returns and the stools begin to acquire consistancy, speedy recovery may be prognosticated.

During reenvery part of the wool always falls off.

Prevention of Dysentery.—If you wish your sheep to take the disease, do as some wiseacres recommend—put tar upon their tails and noses; you will thus render them feverish, and uncomfortable, and every way fit for an attack.

Gathering sheep into confined places is always bad. Nothing will tend more to ward off dysentery than an open frequently-changed easy-lying pasture, combined with gentle usage on the part of the shepherd.

To be continued.

The Alpaca.—The Alpaca is being attempted to be naturalized in Britain, and is now possessed by several noblemen and gentlemen in England and Scotland. A memoir on the subject has been addressed to the proprietors of waste lands by Mr. Walton, and is now published in the shape of a pamphlet, by Smith and Elder, London; and Connell, Liverpool. The animal is a native of the Andes Cordilleras, of Peru, and inhabits the cold regions elevated 8,000 to 12,000 feet above the level of the sea. There they find their favorite and peculiar beverage, the ichu plant, one of the gramineous tribe, and produces in suitable places some good natural meadows. The naturalists place them in the natural order of 'Ruminantia,' but they also bear a comparison with the 'Capridæ;' and in some properties approach the camel. The constitution is hardy, and adapted to cold, mountainous regions. The only doubt entertained with regard to our climate is the humidity, our latitude producing that noxious quality, though the degree of cold is less intense. The wool is fine and glossy, and resembles silk more than common wools; considerable quantities have been imported, and in the custom-house returns it is included under the article 'mohair yarn,' which is manufactured into camlets and moreens.—Many persons think alpaca wool will suit the manufacture of Cashmere shawls. Fine goods are mixed with alpaca wool, and in many cases it passes for silk.

The flesh resembles that of the deer, and is well adapted for hams. The skin is useful for book-binding, and in making belts and straps. The average weight of the carcass of the alpaca

is about 200 lbs, and many of them much exceed that weight. In our country the carcass is rather more regarded than the wool; and, under our present habits of living, any animal less useful for producing animal food, would not compete with our known breed. But it appears the alpaca is recommended for situations not used for sheep—or, at least, very rarely—and if they succeed in parks and enclosures in the first place, the trial in exposed situations will be very interesting. Such experiments, with a view to add to production, and thus employment of labor especially, claim the attention of the wealthy and the support of the community. At present the few attempts do not warrant any general conclusion, but are favorable so far as they have gone. The patriotic individuals who now possess the animals will no doubt bring their capabilities to a just and satisfactory test.—*London Farmers' Magazine.*

THE HONEY BEE, *Continued from page 82.*—Our limits will not allow us to speak at length of the form of the combs, &c., it will suffice for our purpose to speak of their use.

The cells required for the different kinds of eggs and larvæ, are of different sizes, as already described. Those for the workers are first formed, and are the smallest. The queen, so soon as a sufficient number of cells are ready for her, commences depositing those eggs which produce workers; which occupies her during ten or twelve days, with scarce an interval of repose. It appears from various experiments, that she is perfectly aware of the kind of egg she is depositing, and carefully examines the capacity of the cell before using it. In the mean time the workers are engaged in the construction of other cells, when completed she commences laying the male eggs, having acquired such an increase of size as to be barely able to walk. This she continues during from sixteen to twenty-four days, depositing a number equal to about one to thirty of the first kind laid. The royal cells are then constructed, and the queen goes on depositing the eggs of the common bee again, placing one in each of the royal cells at intervals of two or three days; the common cells receiving those laid in the meantime. It is only, however, when the season has been a productive one, and the hive is sufficiently numerous, that royal cells are made or queens reared.

These cells which are set apart as magazines of honey, or of pollen or bee-bread, are made twice as deep as the common cells, and their mouths are more inclined upwards that their liquid contents may not escape so readily. When these are filled, they are closed up by the bees with a wall of wax, opened only when necessity requires.

This bee-bread, though more especially the food of the young bees, is yet devoured by the workers. During some seasons they collect it in considerable quantities.

Honey is produced from the sweet liquid found in flowers, and is lapped by the bees and finds its way into their first stomach. This is a large membranous bag, with a muscular coat, similar to the crop in fowls, here the nectar undergoes a change, becoming honey, and is regurgitated into the cells, or imparted to other bees. The second stomach is used for the purpose of digestion.

An abundant supply of water is essential to the healthy condition of bees. They consume a large quantity, and often drink of stagnant, urinous and putrid waters, as if their saline and pungent qualities were grateful to them. They are also fond of salt, and eat it greedily.

Where hives are so constructed as not to allow of free ventilation, the bees have to regulate the matter themselves. A certain number of workers place themselves on the stand, in and near the entrance, and by the continued vibration of their wings create a strong current of air. The ventilator in the centre of the tunnel stand, in a great measure prevents the necessity for this, and saves the labor of the bees so employed.

The antennæ or feelers, are their organs of touch, and most exquisite ones too. It is by means of them that they are enabled to perform their work in the darkness of their hive.

Their sense of vision is good, but requires a bright light in which to exercise it to perfection.

Their taste is perhaps the most imperfect of their senses; whilst that of smell is particularly good.

As to that of hearing, we are much in the dark. It is probable that they do hear, but to what extent has not been determined.

Their powers of instinct are so remarkable, and yet so well known, that their discussion being not essential to our object, we shall not dwell upon them at great length. That of the massacre of the drones is not the least remarkable. "Very few drones accompany the new colonies, so that almost all those produced in the spring, remain in the hive. But when the queens are impregnated, and no new swarms are about to take place, the workers, who had till then suffered them to remain unmolested in the hive, are on a sudden seized with a deadly fury towards them, and a scene of carnage ensues.—This usually happens in August. The unhappy victims are chased in every quarter, and indiscriminately, and without a single exception, massacred. And so determined are they on their extirpation or destruction, that they destroy at the same time, even the male eggs, larvæ and pupæ. This sacrifice of the males, however, is no blind indiscriminating instinct; for if a hive be deprived of its queen, the massacre does not take place, while the hottest persecution rages in all the surrounding hives. In this case, the males are allowed to survive one winter."

"Having thus got rid of the useless months, which consumed, without any advantage to the public, a large portion of their provisions, the bees spend the remainder of the summer in collecting stores of honey and of pollen for the ensuing winter."

It occasionally happens, however, that their resources for obtaining a supply, entirely fail at this season. On these occasions the distressed bees frequently betake to plunder—the stronger hives attack the weaker ones, and make a furious onset, which costs many of both parties their lives. Where the hives are thus weakened they become an easy prey to the moth, which carries on the work of destruction, until the hive is totally destroyed.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Union Agriculturist

TOWN 40, N. R. 12 E., Nov. 26, 1841.

GOOD BUTTER.

DEAR SIR—In your paper for October 1st on article on Butter, which I think needs a little correction. You say that on account of the superiority of Mr. Vial's Butter, he has received 15 cents per lb. during the season, while other butter has went begging purchasers at 6 to 8 cents per pound. In the first place I would not wish to be understood as saying any thing against Mr. V's butter, which I know to be a first rate article, fit to grace any table.—That considerable butter has been sold in Chicago this season at 6 to 8 cents per pound I am well aware; but this was mostly in the heat of summer, when butter never commands a good price in your market. I have sold several hundred pounds this season at different times in lots of from 50 to 100 lbs. without previously contracting it, and that too without any difficulty in finding cash customers, at the uniform price of 12½ cents per pound.

Query—Did not Mr. V. contract his butter early in the spring to be delivered in small quantities and at stated periods? I am not a large dairyman—keep but a few cows. My only object in writing this is that justice may be done to all. Yours, D.

NOTE.—The above we take to be also from our friend Dunlap, and we thank him for it.—It only goes to show what we want the farmers to be convinced of—the profit there is in taking pains in manufacturing butter. How did Mr. D. get 12½ cents per lb. for his butter without difficulty, when others could hardly sell theirs at 6 to 8 cents? Simply because he made good butter. Mr. V.'s butter was contracted; and those farmers who will uniformly make good butter, can make contracts with families here to deliver it from time to time, always getting the cash, and no time wasted in looking up purchasers.

What can be done here, can be done in the vicinity of other towns; and if farmers would be at a little trouble to let the quality of their butter be known, and look up families who would take it regularly, much time and money would be saved to them.

For the Union Agriculturist.

IMPROVEMENT OF NATIVE STOCK.

MR. WRIGHT: SIR—In a former communication I made a few observations on the practice of paying so great attention to imported stock, and neglecting the stock of our own country; since which I have noticed the proceedings of the different Agricultural Societies, so far as I have had opportunity, and I must say that I think public opinion is wrong, and needs correcting. A slight acquaintance with the management of the agricultural community in England, and those United States, I think, must satisfy every reflecting mind that such is the fact. My remarks are intended particularly for horned cattle. Why should we send yearly, thousands of dollars to England to purchase their improved breeds of cattle, when we have the same means of improving our stock that they have of improving theirs? Such nevertheless is the fact, and the course pursued is something like this: a wealthy farmer in England commences and improves his stock; some of our American farmers go there and purchase some of his best, at a great price, and at much cost and trouble he brings them to this country, and for a while they attract much attention. They are provided as becomes animals of so *noble blood*; and they are indeed fine, for fine keeping will make fine cattle—presently the excitement dies; this breed is neglected and the attention is paid to some later improvement, made and procured in a similar manner as the first described, but by other individuals; and in this way has one improved breed of cattle succeeded another ever since the improvement of cattle commenced in England. And where are all the different breeds at this time? When any of those fine breeds of cattle are neglected they deteriorate, and for a time fall behind our common stock; but in the end they become more hardy by hard usage and the breed then cannot be told from the breed of the country. This is the course that has been pursued; and there are but very few cattle in our United States, but what are a cross from some of those that have been imported for the good qualities they were supposed to possess. Thus England has been improving her stock, and we have been paying her for it.—Now I will submit it to every reflecting individual to say, whether it is better to pursue this course, or improve our own breed of cattle by selecting from our best to breed from and taking proper care of them.

Premiums from Agricultural Societies.—Let our Agricultural Societies, instead of awarding premiums almost wholly, on what is termed blooded stock, give their greatest encouragement to stock improved from what is termed the common breed; and then not to one individual animal, but to a herd of ten, or some given number, raised or owned by the same man. If this course could be generally adopted, it would not be long before there would be as much necessity for the farmers of England to come here for blooded stock, as for our farmers to go there for it. There is as much consistency in the one as the other. I am so much of an American, that to be able to trace a long line of noble ancestors has no charm for me.

"Should I receive any "random shots" from any of your correspondents for these my heterodox opinions, they cannot wound deep. They are my candid opinions, honestly formed; and if in an error I should be happy "to stand corrected". SAMUEL T. M'KEAN.

Northampton, Peoria co. Ill, Nov. 27, 1841.

NOTE—Previous to the reception of Mr. Mc Kean's letter, we had put into the hands of the painter, a letter to the Spirit of the Times, relative to Mr. Allen's Agricultural tour in England; and we are glad the opinions there expressed are so well followed up by Mr. Mc Kean.

There is no question but that it is well for us to get some of the stock which has been improved with so much time and labor, as some of the breeds of England; and this does not controvert Mr. McK.'s opinion. The question is, have we not enough of the superior blood to create breeds of our own? Col. Jaques' "Cream pot" breed, one of the finest in the world, he has made by crossing common stock with the Short-horn Durham. It is best to get some good blood, when the stock is to be well taken care of, in order to save time in improving the common stock; but unless it be well taken care of, a person might just as well get common at first.

The suggestion to Agricultural Societies is a good one; and if premiums were awarded to the *raisers* of the best stock—not the *owners*, much good would result to the farming community. In proposing premiums, we doubt not the Western Societies will take the subject into consideration.

For the Union Agriculturist.

MACOMB, March 19, 1841.

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture is an art of very great antiquity. It is, in fact, coeval with human society, and received the assiduous attention of the first parent of our race, whilst yet a happy tenant of the garden of paradise; since which time it has been the favorite pursuit of man in every condition and circumstance in life; of every persuasion and principle: of every grade and caste;—it is the main spring of our happiness and comfort, and affords the most ample and independent subsistence of any other occupation or profession. As the fountain head is to the stream that issues from it, so is agriculture to every other pursuit. Upon this art are all alike dependent.

If the fruit of the soil, the golden harvest of agriculture, be blasted; fell starvation and famine, with all their horrors, are the dire consequences. But let agriculture flourish, and the expectations of the husbandman be realized; abundance and plenty prevail, and every heart is filled with joy.

Every human being has an interest in it. It is not only the foundation of the arts and sciences, but the basis of civilization and refinement, and essential to the very existence of the inhabitants of a large portion of the globe.

Gold and silver may glitter and dazzle; the commodities and furniture of merchants and artizans may subserve many a valuable purpose; the eloquence of the legal advocate may excite emotions of wonder and admiration; but it is the produce of the soil that sustains life.

Herein it has the ascendancy over anything else; not only man, but those animals reared by him for food or labor, are essentially dependent upon its rich resources.

But there is yet another consideration which goes to show the intrinsic value and importance of this time honored art, viz; the healthful and happy influence which it exerts upon the morals and constitutions of our citizens. Invariably we find that wherever this art receives that attention which it deserves, there morality, virtue and temperance, will exist; and that the sentiments of honor and integrity more generally animate the rough and manly form of the farmer, than the debilitated body of the artizan. Thus we see it is intimately connected with our national character. Hence every attempt to improve it should be considered worthy of attention and regard.

All who prize the invaluable blessings of civilization, and an honest independent subsistence, should cheerfully lend a helping hand, and do all that is in their power to bring it to the highest state of perfection.

Although some, yea many, of the present day, who have been cursed in the lap of indolence and fed with the sweat of the laboring poor, consider it degrading and beneath the dignity of gentlemen to cultivate the soil, yet such is not the fact. Some of the most illustrious characters that have ever graced the world were practical farmers. The immortal Washington, the father of his country; Putnam, the champion of liberty; and a host of other worthies, whose name are registered in legible character upon our country's history as statesmen and warriors, cheerfully laid aside the habiliments of war, and betook themselves to the implements of husbandry.

And shall we, their sons, who have been fed to the full from the ample resources and luxuriant harvests reared by the sweat of their brows, not give it our assiduous attentions? Shall we prefer the mushroom and unsubstantial fortunes of commerce, or the drudgery behind the counter of a retailer, to the manly, invigorating toil of the agriculturist, which gives not only a subsistence, but a placid feeling of contentment not to be found elsewhere; which not only creates the appetite to enjoy, but guarantees its continuance by a robust constitution fortified with the safe-guards of temperance and virtue.

Agriculture, though the most ancient of all arts, having been practised by men in all ages of the world, is still capable of being improved; and may we not hope that by the means of agricultural associations, and liberally patronized and ably conducted papers, information on this subject will be widely diffused, and ere long be brought to a much higher degree of perfection than it has heretofore been. W. Y. H.

NOTE.—This communication has been on hand a long time, and has not been published because we wished to give more practical information. But it contains some sound truths, and for want of more practical communications, we think it best to insert this. We know not who Mr. H. is; but he is evidently capable of writing with ease, and we shall hope to hear from him and other farmers in McDonough co., more frequently.

For the Union Agriculturist.

SOLICITING SUBSCRIBERS.

MARSEILLES, La Salle co. 11th Mo. 1841.

In redeeming the promise which I, with many others, made at Naperville, I find a more friendly disposition manifested towards the papers than I expected to find. It is rare that I get a decided negative; and in the few cases, after a little conversation on the subject, it is withdrawn and some encouragement given. Hard times is the most general excuse; but this is soon abandoned and a subscription entered or a promise given to subscribe as soon as the needful can be consumed. These promises, like many others, are not always paid.

Below is a list of seven subscribers; and in order to give all the inducements I can towards enlarging the paper, I will guarantee at least eight more to be furnished on the end of the first quarter of the second volume.

Sending the paper to the East.—I think we who are recent emigrants, and have left friends behind us, should send them the Agriculturist, they would generally be very much interested with it, especially if they designed to seek another home at some future day.

D. C. UNDERHILL.

NOTE.—We are pleased to hear that Mr. U. is so successful. Though the paper commends itself to most farmers as worthy of support, yet with many their decision whether to subscribe or not, turns upon the character of the agent, or his mode of making the request.—We have observed, that with a Quaker, there is a plain, straight forward way with which he recommends a thing in which he feels an interest, that commands the attention of every one addressed. And a man whose interest in a cause could not be awakened by a Quaker, when he is really desirous of procuring his aid. We should never expect to see interested by any one. We wish Mr. U. could for a few months have the power of ubiquity; we should expect to see the subscription list to the Union Agriculturist increase rapidly.

If all the volunteers had done as well, what a surplus of funds we should have! But alas alas!

For the Union Agriculturist.

LOVE GROVE, Kendall co. Illinois.

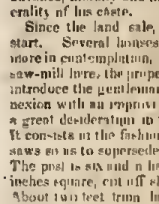
October 31, 1841.

IMPROVEMENTS ON FOX RIVER, FENCING &c.

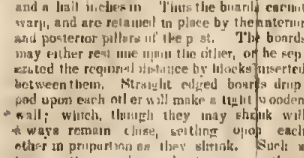
SIGNOR AGRICULTURIST,—A few days since I visited the villages upon the Fox, or Necnagh, River (as the Indian aborigines are said to call it) as far up as Dundee. They all of them make a very fair appearance for so young a country. They are Oswego, Aurora, Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles, Elgin, and Dundee. Of these St. Charles has unquestionably the pre-

commence. Its situation is commanding, and it is extending itself on both sides of the river. The water power may be termed, I suppose, first rate. "I was much struck with the bustle of the place. It reminded me of a hive of bees, for its citizens seemed to be building up their quarters on every hand. Stone and brick seem to be much in demand; for factories, houses and temples are being erected of these durable materials. There are bridges at all these villages, save Oswego and Aurora. At Geneva is the Court House of Kane county.' In this place things appear in statu quo, or rather retrograding; and I should imagine from its contiguity to St. Charles very likely to continue so. St. Charles—Geneva; why should the former be so much before the latter seeing that Geneva is the county seat? The two villages are but two and a half miles apart. I am told that speculation has embarrassed the latter, while liberality and enterprise have given a salutary impulse to St. Charles. The country around both is grand, and inviting to the cultivator of the soil. Elgin is improving and buildings of brick going up. But to me the most interesting feature about this village was a plantation of locust trees on both sides of the road from Elgin to St. Charles as it diverges from the Chicago route. They extend a considerable distance, and promise to be good substantial posts for the fence which shall succeed the cumbrous and unsightly stake and ridered worm. To pass by such farms as this is very animating to the traveler, and impresses upon him a very favorable opinion of the industry, perseverance and taste of the proprietor; who, though I know him not, I am sure must be in advance, morally and intellectually, of the generality of his caste.

Since the land sale, Dundee has taken a start. Several houses are being erected, and more in contemplation. There is an excellent saw-mill here, the property of H. Gatman. I introduce the gentleman's name to you in connexion with an improvement, which, I think is a great desideratum in the article of *fencing*. It consists in the fashion of the post, which he saws so as to supersede both pins and nails.—The post is six and a half feet long and five inches square, cut off sloping at the upper end. About two feet from below a hole is bored through the center by an inch auger, which liberates a piece one inch by five and four feet and a half long, formed by two saw cuts. The annexed diagram is a representation of the

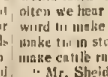


post viewed from either side. They are sawed out of a thirty-six foot log; the butts being left end to end until the groove is cut out, when they are separated into posts of the required length. The figure from the post represents the section of a board cut from the top to shed rain from the eyes. The dotted lines indicate the surface of the ground. The groove, it will be remembered, is five inches through; hence inch boards may be inserted end to end 2 and a half inches in. Thus the boards cannot warp, and are retained in place by the anterior and posterior pillars of the post. The boards may either rest one upon the other, or be separated the required distance by blocks inserted between them. Straight edged boards dropped upon each other will make a tight wooden wall; which, though they may shrink will always remain close, seeking upon each other in proportion as they shrink. Such a fence as this round a garden having a southern aspect would do well, I imagine, for the class of trees in England termed "wall fruit." The peach, nectarine, apricot, &c. are for the most part trained against walls in that country; and would fronts of the most delicious flavor. Would not this be a desideratum for the horticulturist, at this keen frosty time? The following is the appearance of the fence with interspaces between the boards.



As to the preservation of posts, I have heard of, and but have not tested it, that posts may be made to last for a much longer period than usual, by burning an auger hole obliquely between earth and air, filling it up with salt, and plugging it up. It is said, that you can taste off a piece of the plug, and that its taste on chewing it will be relished. If the plan runs, why should not posts be salted as well as pork? We leave this with the experimentalist and speculator.

But some object, no doubt you will, the posts will rot off between earth and air. To obviate this, and to prevent the loosening of the posts by the softening of the ground and so the twisting of the fence by the wind, a friend has suggested to me the plan of laying blocks upon the ground transversely to the fence about three feet long of the shape



a double inclined plane united by a horizontal one. Upon this surface a mortise is chiselled out to receive a tenon at the base of the post, which is retained in place by fore and aft braces, thus:



In fine, Sir, three things are worthy of consideration in the great matter of fencing, namely, time labor and timber. These three when economized will diminish the expense; and a diminution of this item is of vast importance to the cultivator. But durability should not be sacrificed to economy, or the fence constructed on this principle, which is essentially the do for the present system, will assuredly be the most expensive in the end. But as for other these things only as hints, being, as I have before told you, but an amateur farmer, though indeed somewhat more practical than before. Wishing you success in your laudable endeavors to elevate the condition and to improve the circumstances of the industrious tiller of the ground, I subscribe myself,

Yours, JOHN THOMAS.

NOTE—Such descriptions of country as the above are most welcome. We wish the Union Agriculturist to be made the chronicler of Western improvements; and our friends as they travel hither and thither will render us a great favor by sending us notes of their observations.

The beautiful farm referred to, we take to be Mr. Hezekiah Gifford's.

FARMER'S MEETING AT BOSTON.—We extract the following from the Boston Cultivator, giving a sample of the discussions that took place during the sessions of the Legislature, to which we have referred in another place. In this way *practical* information is obtained; and we hope the members of every Western Legislature will have such meetings the coming winter. The Legislature of Illinois is not to be convened.

"Mr. Sheldon, of Wilmington, was requested to make some further statements on the subject of stock. Mr. S. is a practical farmer, and a few years since undertook the levelling of the Pemberton Hill in Boston, in which service he employed 113 oxen at one time. He observed that smiths did not generally shoe oxen well they did not make the shoes long enough and to run back and support the foot properly behind—he and the shoes should be turned and shouldered back half an inch behind the hoof—he could drive without such piping and he could make oxen back a loaded cart better by clapping their noses with his hands than by whipping them on the nose or legs. He spoke in a very rational manner of the ungrammatical using proper language to oxen—he would use no words used without a meaning, then each would learn and obey without whipping, (how often we hear half-bred teamsters use the same word to make cattle go which others use to make them stop, yelling "whoa" so loud as to make cattle run!)

"Mr. Sheldon said he had known a deaf and dumb man who could drive and yoke well by the motion of his whip, but he could not drive three yoke well—he could not speak to them. He told of a case where 24 oxen were hitched to a barn, and they could not be made to draw, because they would not all draw at the same time. The command was finally given to an old teamster—he charged the several drivers each to mind his own cattle and not let them draw till he should give out the word *con*—a word which his own oxen understood, and the others were at liberty to use their own phrases or smoke with the whip as they were accustomed to on starting. When all were ready he cried out *come*; his own oxen knowing no more other drivers used their own language or the whips; but all starting at once they had no difficulty in moving the building.

"Mr. S. observed that a well legged horse travelled best—the long strong bone from the hind—he said it was a good method for a horse to carry his right and left feet near together, as they thus supported the body better, being more directly under it."

CASTOR BEA —Several farmers in this county tried their hand at the article, and the result is a product in all of 2,900 bushels, portfolios of which have been brought to Peoria and were purchased by the Messrs. Farrell for the purpose of expressing the oil at their oil mill. The price paid was 8 per bushel in silver. So we see that what has been done in this attempt to introduce a new article, has sent among the few engaged in it about $23000. The cultivation of the bean was generally entered into only as an experiment. The mode of culture was new, with perhaps a single exception it to all that tried it, yet the degree of success that attended their efforts, and the estimation formed of the business, may be inferred from the fact that with one or two exceptions, all who this year attempted its culture, have determined to go into it more extensively next year, and contracts have already been made to deliver at least 6000 bushels here next fall. All think they can produce more from the same ground another year, as they now know something more of its culture. And we have heard of several instances where over 25 bushels to the acre were produced.—*Peoria Dem. Press.*

AGRICULTURE SHOULD BE MADE A STUDY.—There are few if any other pursuits that open so wide a field for inquiry as agriculture. It is true that every boy of common capacity, who has been raised on a farm, becomes sufficiently familiar with the usual farming operations to pursue the business in a way that enables him to get a living. But in most instances his operations are carried on with but very little inquiry as to the most correct and best principles of husbandry. He goes on this year as he went last year, and as his father went for many years. Moving onward thus in his unvaried round from year to year, the industrious and prudent man may gain property and be a respected and useful citizen. But his pursuit would be more interesting, and he would become a more intelligent man, were he to observe more closely the immediate and the lasting action of each kind of manure that he applies; were he to note the effects of each kind of manure upon each different crop that he cultivates; were he to calculate the cost of each crop that he raises; were he to determine by careful observation the soil best suited to each crop; were he to determine the best time and manner of applying manure to each; were he to *study* how to make as much manure as possible; were he to satisfy himself fully as to the proper distances for hills of corn and rows of roots; were he to learn whence the plants derive their principal nourishment and in what state they take it up; were he to satisfy himself as to the parts of the farm which are too cold or too cold to be productive; were he to learn carefully what spots could be greatly improved by deep ploughing; were he to seek diligently to know what it would be best to do on each comparatively unproductive spot in the farm, in order to make it fertile; were he to be observing, studying, thinking, reasoning and judging upon these matters, there can be no doubt that without ever reading a line upon agriculture, or making any other *experiment* than what his usual routine affords, that he would become a more intelligent and a more successful farmer, than if he bestowed no particular attention upon these and other equally important matters.

But while he may make important advances in the art of agriculture without comparing notes with his neighbors, and without reading, it is not to be doubted that most men could derive much benefit from learning what the experiences of others has taught. We know a man who says that there is none other wise enough to teach him anything? Who understands farming better than all the men combined who ever wrote upon the subject? If there be any such man, he may be excused from reading or inquiring. But such an one nowhere exists, and all who till the earth may gain information from many a written page.

Agricultural Papers.—And now when the evenings are long and the labors of the day not very severe, let there be at hand some agricultural paper or some treatise upon agriculture, that you may look into for half an hour or an hour. Many things that you will read were written for somebody else, and will give you but little instruction. Other articles will furnish hints and facts which you may turn to good account. Read—read and reflect—and you will become a wiser and better farmer. Take an agricultural paper; have one that you can call your own; preserve it on file and it will be to you in many occasions valuable for reference. There are papers enough—weeklies at $2 per year, and monthlies at from 50 to $1. Take one or more of them, for you will get from many a single copy, knowledge that will be worth more to you than the price of all the numbers for a year.

Town Agricultural Societies and Associations—Many of you find that after being out in the wind and cold all day, that you become sleepy and stupid when you sit down in-doors in the warm kitchen. Here lies one of the chief reasons why farmers do not read more. The warmth of the room and the sitting posture invite them very strongly to repose. Reading is, for this reason, to many of them a disagreeable business. They do not lack inquisitiveness or interest in their business, so much as they lack ability to keep themselves wide awake while attempting to read, and thus lack ability to get up much interest in reading. For this reason, among others, we repeat a recommendation which was strongly urged in our columns last winter, that associations of farmers living in the same immediate neighborhood, say within two or three miles of each other, should be formed for the purpose of talking over matters pertaining to agriculture. Let the exercises be reading, discussion, narration of experiences, or any thing else that might furnish the most information in the most interesting manner. Occasionally a lecture upon the subject might be procured. Should such associations become general, more—much more benefit would flow from them than all the County, State, or National Societies will confer, though these may be very beneficial.

Get up one in your neighborhood.—*N. Eng. Farmer.*

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

CURING MEAT.—In the first series, we inserted the following recipe for curing hams; but as few of the subscribers were furnished with those Nos., we insert it again, knowing it to be good, our father having used it for many years. It was not till a year since, in examining an old volume of the Albany Cultivator, from which we copy, that we learned it bore the aristocratic name of

KNICKERBACKER PICKLE.—Take six gallons of water, nine pounds of salt, three pounds coarse brown sugar, one quart of molasses, three ounces salt petre and one ounce pearlash—mix and boil the whole well, taking care to skim off all the impurities which rise to the surface. This constitutes the pickle. When the meat is cut, it should be slightly rubbed with fine salt, and suffered to lay a day or two that the salt may extract the blood; it may then be packed tight in the cask, and the pickle having become cold, may be turned upon and should cover the meat. A follower, to fit the inside of the cask, should then be laid on, and a weight put on it, in order to keep the meat at all times covered with pickle. The sugar may be omitted without material detriment. In the spring the pickle must be turned off, boiled with some additional salt and molasses, skimmed, and when cold, returned to the cask.

For domestic use beef and pork hams should not be salted the day the animals are killed, but kept until its fibre has become short and tender, as these changes do not take place after it has been acted upon by the salt.

Meat that is to be dried and smoked, requires less salt than that which is to remain in pickle, on account of the preserving qualities of pyroligneous acid, which is supplied by the smoke of the wood. The great art in smoking meat well, seems in consist in having the meat dried by smoke, and not by heat. The hams of Westphalia and the smoked beef of Hamburgh, which are universally in reputation, are managed in this way. The Westphalian farmers have a closet in the garret, joining the chimney, made tight, to retain smoke, in which they hang their hams and bacon to dry out of the effect of the heat of the fire. Two apertures are made from the closet into the chimney, and a place is made for an iron stopper to be thrust into the tunnel of the chimney, to force the smoke through the lower hole into the closet. The upper hole must not be too big, because the closet must always be full of smoke, and that from wood fires.

The Hamburgh method of making their superior smoked beef is this: Fires of oak chips are built in the cellars, from whence the smoke is conveyed by two chimneys into the fourth story and thrown into a chamber by two openings placed opposite to each other. The size of the chamber in proportioned to the quantity of meat to be smoked, but the ceiling is not raised more than five feet and a half from the floor. Above this chamber there is another made with boards, 1 to which the smoke passes through a hole in the ceiling of the first, whence it escapes by openings formed in the sides. The pieces of meat are hung up at the distance of a foot and a half from each other, and in five inches up night and day for a month or six weeks, according to the size of the pieces.

TO MAKE OOLIN, WHOLESOME PIE CRUST.—Take one pound of lard, if quite hard soften without melting, rub it lightly in the flour, add a little salt, dissolve half a teaspoon full of saleratus in a pint of water, then pour slowly over the flour and lard, mixing as little as possible; all the butter if some dry flour remains in it, but let it not get stiff—handle and roll as little as possible when made out for the dishes—bake in a quick oven.—*W. Farm & Gard.*

LIME IN THE POTATO PIG.—An intelligent physician from South Carolina, tells us that a piece of lime put into the pot in which you boil your potatoes, has a very good effect in rendering them less watery or more mealy. "How big a piece?" said we "*As big as a piece of trust*" replied he.—*N. Eng. Far.*

DISCOVERY IN THE PREPARATION OF TIMBER.—We are indebted to our friend, C. Carmichael, of Friendsville Pa., for a copy of a translation from the collection of Savans Etrangers, of a report made by a committee of the French Academy, on a method discovered by M. Boucherie of Paris, "for rendering wood more durable, preserving its elasticity, preventing the shrinking and variation in size from dryness or humidity, rendering its combustibility incessant, its superfluity and hardness, and even giving it a variety of durable colors and odors."

The possibility of impregnating wood with fixed substances, has long been known; and the fact has been taken advantage of for many economical purposes, but which has been done, powerful forcing machines and a prolonged action have been required to complete the impregnation. The discovery of M. Boucherie, consists in causing the various fluids required, to penetrate the tree by the simple operations of nature itself. One of the most beautiful proofs of the fact that solutions of various substances are taken up unchanged, may be seen by sprinkling the soil in which a white hyacinth is in a state of blossom, in growing, with the juice of the *Phytolacca decandra*, when the white flower instantly assumes in one or two hours a red color which again disappears in a few days under the influence of sunshine, and they become white as before. The colors of some other flowers may be changed in a similar manner.

The method of Dr. Bourberie is to place the bottom of a trunk in the fluid you wish to have absorbed, and in a few days it will be found that

door has succeeded to the largest leaves. "For instance, let a tree full of sap, be cut off at its foot, and plunge the foot in a vessel containing the liquor you wish to have applied, and the liquor will rise to the most elevated points. All the vegetable texture is invaded except the heart of the tree, which with the old ruin, resist the penetration of the absorbed substance." We have room only to state some of the principal results; the applicability of the method to a multitude of cases will be seen at once by an intelligent reader.

3. It is not necessary that the tree should remain erect. It may be felled, the branches (the terminal ones excepted) trimmed off, and, when the base being in connection with the liquid to be absorbed, it will gradually penetrate every part.

3. It is not indispensable to cut the tree down. A cavity made by an axe, or dividing a large part of its substance with a saw, will suface, for in placing the liquid in contact with the cavity or cut, it will be rapidly absorbed.

4. The substance chosen to give durability to wood, by preserving it from dry or wet rot, is the pyroligneous of iron. To render it incombustible, or not liable to shrink or swell from dryness or moisture, chloride of calcium, and the mother of water salt marshes or wrecks, is used.

The pyrolignite of iron is made by putting old iron into pyroligneous acid, produced by the combustion of wood in making charcoal. The colors are given by the preparations which will affect the wood directly, or the substances previously introduced. Thus the color of ebony is produced by saturating the tree with the pyrolignite of iron, and following this with a tanning matter which will dye the whole black, by converting the liquid into ink.

The effect which such preparations of iron must have on the durability of wood may be considered one of the most important parts of the discovery, taken in connection with the ease of the saturating operation. Numbers of experiments have been made in the wine cellars of Bordeaux, on hoops prepared by the author of the process. Common hoops fell to pieces at the slightest touch or strain when the prepared ones were as solid as on the first day of their use. We consider this an important discovery, not only as relates to economical purposes, but for the light it seems capable of throwing on some hitherto unsolved questions of vegetable physiology.—*Alb. Cult*

THE UNION AGRICULTURIST

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

DECEMBER, 1841.

OFFICERS OF THE U. A. S.

JAMES T GIFFORD, of Knie Co, President.
LEWIS ELLSWORTH, Do Page " Vice Pres.
TERAH D BRAWSTER, Do Sullivan "
WM NOBLE DAVIS, Kendall "
WILLIAM SMITH, Will "
SETH WASHBURN, Lake "
E. W BRAWSTER, Knie " Treasurer.
JNO. S. WRIGHT, Cook " Rec Sec
Do, do. " Cor. Sec

With the present number, our labors close for this volume of the Union Agriculturist. To us the year has been one of many pleasures, as well as benefits. Saving the vexation occasioned by the delay of the June number, and the disagreeable labor of "skinning," which we have been obliged to resort to almost every number to pay the printer, we have never passed a year more pleasantly. These causes of discontent will not probably occur during the coming year: the first it will be our province to ward off, not less for our own than our subscribers' comfort; the second the subscribers will prevent, by remitting their own subscriptions, immediately, and then procuring others from their neighbors.

And after the careful examination necessary in preparing the index for the volume, we cannot but believe subscribers will consider their dollars well spent in obtaining it. The amount of valuable matter furnished by Western farmers themselves, is far greater than we had supposed and is alone worth the cost of it many times over. And by means of our most valuable exchange list, the remainder of the paper has, we think, been filled with matter adapted to the West. Still we fear offence, may have been given to some; and that a few subscribers may be lost, who would gladly take the next volume, were it conducted by some other person. The only evidence we can have that the paper gives satisfaction is by the new subscriptions; and we shall therefore expect those who really like the paper, to be foremost in subscribing for it. Those especially who subscribe the first part of January and before, shall we look upon as real friends, who will stand by the paper "through thick and thin."

To those who have not only subscribed themselves, but have also procured others in behalf of the U. A. S., we express our most grateful acknowledgements; and upon the principle that "one good turn deserves another," we would ask of them the same and again!

To the Correspondents, those who have rendered us such efficient service, we are still more indebted. Though the cash is indispensably necessary, still we had rather receive a good communication than a subscription. Several valued correspondents, have of late dropped off: we trust they will again resume their pens in our behalf, and send us articles for the first numbers of the next volume. The sooner they are received, the better.

Our terms being "*most validly in advance*," we must here wish our subscribers an affectionate farewell, hoping the acquaintance will soon be renewed.

"UNION AGRICULTURIST"

"The 2nd volume of this excellent work will commence on the first of January, 1842. How many farmers in Laporte county will take a copy? Come along, and let us give it a regular Hoosier lift, as it is as peculiarly devoted to our interests as to the farmers of Illinois. Let us give it that support which is worthy a good Western publication.—Where is our friend *J. L. Crandall*? Can't you procure fifty good subscribers? Try it.—*Gazette*

Many thanks, friend Stuart, for your suggestion. If Mr Crandall can get fifty in the vicinity of Laporte, which we should think could be done with ease, how many should we have from Michigan City.

The Union Agriculturist *is a Western paper*, and to sustain the enlargement it will be necessary for the farmers of the West to unite as one man in its support.

It will be observed in the prospectus for the next volume, that fifty copies are sent to a county for forty dollars, where the subscriptions are obtained by one individual or subscribed for by a society. It seems to us an easy way of making ten dollars in Laporte county, for instance, an active man of the right sort, either young or old, would in three or six days obtain that number of subscribers with ease. What can be done in La Porte, can be done in many other counties; and though we do not suppose individuals will engage in the work, merely to make money, yet every one likes pay enough to cover necessary expenses. We expect the taking more we on obtaining subscribers will be, to add the paper and secure its permanent enlargement.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.—During the publication of the April and May Nos., when everything went on straight, and subscribers received their papers regularly, we had a perfect flood of valuable communications from the farmers all over the West; but from July there has been a sad falling off. The blame of it is entirely with us, or rather not with the subscribers; for we are not willing to have the blame of that suspension. It was an unfortunate circumstance, entirely beyond our control. And now as we are once more under full head way we want the farmers—those who alone can supply the fuel, to keep the furnace seven-times heated. There will be no danger of an explosion, we will take care to make away with the steam as fast as it accumulates.

Farmers, we can't have from your own pens at least four pages in each No. of the paper. You can't give a reason worth one straw, why we should not. Only think of the exam of ferreting from which the matter is to come, and the superior ability of the farmers to prepare it, and are we too sanguine to saying, We shall have it?

There is but one thing in the way—farmer A. will think M farmer B and say, "Well, the editor is right to hammering away at such for it is not their ideas, the results of their experiments, that makes the paper valuable. I would'nt give a cent for a city paper without the original articles from the practical farmer."—Farmer B. thinks of neighbor C, or perhaps of neighbor A, or of every farmer throughout the alphabet but himself, whilst we mean no one but you, *you, reader.*

"What, me! Why I never wrote anything to be printed in my life. What in the name of common sense do you want me to write about."

Just anything you choose, so that it be common sense. You have perhaps tried some experiment or to the culture of grain, or of roots, the past year; let us have that. There may be some subject about which you would like to inquire. Every inquiry but one that has been put in the paper the present volume has been answered, and yours probably would be. Write something—we mean add what is so common—"it is foolish." But let us have a good plain, farmer-like article from you pen very speedily.

Before you will be reading this, there will be three compositors hard at work on the Jan. No., and having but five or six communications on hand, it will be impossible to make up four pages, unless some of you lend us a helping hand soon—immediately.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF AG.—The Pres. of the U. A. S, JAMES T GIFFORD, Esq., left for Washington a few days since to be present at the meeting to organize this Society. We are rejoiced the U. A. S is so ably represented and Eastern and Southern agriculturists will find Mr G ready with whom they will be pleased to unite in promoting agricultural improvement.

By a letter received a few days since from Solon Robinson, Esq., we regretted much to learn that ill health would prevent him from being present at that meeting. Having been so active in arousing the public mind to this enterprise and in forming it, we fear the matter spring will be found to be waiting and that little or no progress will be made. His absence will not be less regretted by his friends than himself.

THE BOON'S LICK FARMER.—We were surprised this morning in taking from the post office the first No. of an agricultural paper with this title, commenced away up the Missouri river, we do not know how many hundred miles. Our first ex laimation was, What in the deuce are they doing with an agricultural paper so far out of the world as this. But then we thought how recently the same remark could have been made with regard to a paper here, and our surprise was turned to joy, that so soon they were commencing agricultural improvement in what may be truly termed, "the far West." We no longer lay claims to being located in that region, a few some hundreds of miles West of where we have ever been.

The terms of the paper are $1 per annum in advance, and we wish it success. Though the sum is but a trifle, yet to show our sincerity, we forward a file of our own publication.

KIND OF MONEY RECEIVED.—We of course receive the State Bank and Shawneetown and Indiana money at par. Cairo is said to be below par. We much prefer Eastern money, and when a subscriber or agent would pay us East Western money the same as Western, we will be greatly obliged to him to forward us the Eastern funds with a premium; and where an individual can sell it at a premium he will of course do it. But we suppose our friends will be willing to out as far as they can without injury to themselves, and we would thank them to send us Eastern money when they would not sell it for a premium.

A SUCKER CORN SHELLER.—Mr. D. C Under hill of Marseilles has left with us a model of a corn sheller got up by himself and Mr. Job Manfield. It is perfectly simple, and can be built by any farmer at an expense of about one dollar.

We shall give an engraving and descrip tion of it in the Jan No. A bushel of corn can be shelled with it in ten minutes.

POISONING WOLVES.—We learn from the druggists here, that strychnine, recommended by Dr. Silcomb in our 5th page to poisoning wolves, has been much called for. We hope every farmer coming in Chicago will be certain to get a little, if not a great deal; and probably the druggists of other towns can also furnish it. If they have it not, let them make it; the receipt book of recipes will tell them how.

If the farmers generally will aid in this work the wolves will be nearly destroyed during the coming winter, so that sheep may be kept with comparative safety. Besides, it may be made a profitable business, at least in Illinois. Here there is a bounty of one dollar for each wolf's scalp; and there may be a similar bounty in other States and Territories. By pairing into the bait several different colored threads, all similarly arranged a person could sweat pretty certainly that he killed the wolf, in whose stomach it was found. But bounty or no bounty, let us get rid of the wolves.

☞ Those having good dogs would do well to keep them confined, for fear they might get some of the bait.

EXCHANGE OF NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.—Reader, we wish an exchange of New Year's presents between us. You present us by the 1st of Jan. a dollar, and see if you do not receive the present we will make you in return, a full equivalent. To be sure, the exchange of presents will not be with all the disinterestedness usual at this season of the year; but if by this time we receive about three hundred such presents, it will be indeed a happy new year for us. And now reader, dear reader, for fear others should be ungenteel of us, will you not send your's this instance?

☞ Most of our subscribers can as well forward their subscriptions by the first of Jan as before, and besides the inducement to aid us in this pressing time of need, there is another which may operate still stronger—that of the enlargement of the paper. Though the Jan. No is to be printed with twelve pages, the Feb. No. will equal in bulk eight, unless there be the most perfect certainty of the increased expenses being defrayed. It adds one half to the expense of publication; but still there is no increase in the price. We have determined the number of subscribers that must be received to insure the publication of the Feb. No. with twelve pages, and it will not be altered. The number is also reasonable, it is therefore for the *interest* of every one intending to take the paper, to forward his dollar immediately.

WISCONSIN TERRITORIAL AG SOC.—The Southport Telegraph in copying a short article from our last number, thinks it inexpedient to organize a *Territorial* Society, but says the Eastern counties would do well to unite in forming a society embracing their own district. The reason is, because the Western portion of the Territory, being more engaged in mining, is not as much interested in agricultural improvement as the Eastern.

Of that we do not pretend to judge. The principle benefit of a State or Territorial Society is to form a bond of union between the several county societies. If it be best for only a part of the Territory to form such a society, the same benefits will accrue; but form some society at any rate. To omit the present session of the Territorial Legislature pass without the formation of some such society.

We would also suggest the expediency of holding meetings at Madison during the session of the Legislature, weekly perhaps, similar to those held by the members of the Massachusetts legislature, when some agricultural subject is agreed upon which shall be discussed the next week, and all that can possibly be during a President is chosen and any one can take part in the discussion. It strikes us the West we have not Mr. Colman and Col. Jaques to add to the interest of such meetings by their attendance and aid; but then how much wider a field for research and investigation is opened here than in the new system of lecturing! If such meetings can be made interesting and profitable in the farmers of old Massachusetts, surely, with all the new subjects of interest that occur in prairie farming, it would not be very difficult to make Western meetings equally agreeable. These meetings would be one of the consequences of organizing a society, and we therefore hope no time will be lost in the organization, and that some one will faithfully report to us the proceedings and discussions for publication.

Will not Messrs. Brinsmade, Mills, Deming, Maxwell, and other friends of improvement of agriculture in the Territory, put the ball in motion? It will roll, oh! how easy, when once started.

IOWA TER.—Could the above suggestions with regard to Wisconsin, be also applied to Iowa? Though so new, yet societies should be speedily organized. The first settlers of a country can make it just what they please. If the farmers of Iowa now form societies, and interest themselves in agricultural improvement, every new comer will lend a helping hand, for, it will be *popular*. Let no time be lost. You will surely regret it if you do not at once engage in this important work.

THE LIST OF AGENTS &c.—In a former number we promised to give a list of those who had exerted themselves in behalf of the papers; but the labor of preparing the index, sending off the prospectus, and getting out several numbers in such quick succession, has been so great we could not do it. We much regret the names of such few individuals cannot be published, who have obtained their thirty or forty subscribers; but it would not answer to give those and withhold others. A correct list could not be made out without going over the entire correspondence, and this we cannot do for want of time.

In the next volume we shall publish each No the number of subscribers, with the name of the person by whom they were obtained, as last received.

LA SALLE CO. AG. SOC.—We have only the report of the proceedings at the organization of this Society as it appeared in the newspapers, the Secretary not having sent a bound us a copy. Nothing was said of the adoption of the Constitution, except that it was reported by a committee. We should like to know the form, whether it be like the one published in our 47th page, or what alterations were made in it; and we should like information as to the form of the La Salle co Auxiliary.

It is gratifying to see so efficient a friend to agricultural improvement as Isaac Hardy Esq, elected President. With such an able corps of assistant officers as he has, many of whom we have the pleasure of knowing, the La Salle co. Society will prove an able auxiliary. What counties will next adopt this plan, so important to the prosperity of the parent society?

PEORIA CO.—Mr *A.* Stevens, of Peoria, in remitting us a subscription, says, "We shall try and obtain a number of subscribers for next year, as several who now take the ——— paper your paper. The ——— has *thirty-two* subscribers at this office."

That is right; and we doubt not every farmer of the West is unable to take more than one agricultural paper, would take this, if he only studied his own interest. Where a farmer has five dollars to spare for agricultural publications, he cannot spend it to greater profit than by taking all he can afford. But at the farmer feels unable to spend but one single dollar, let him send it to the Union Agriculturist.

Those wishing to take more than one would do well, when they come to town, to call at our office and make selections. They can then judge for themselves. We have had inquiries from such individuals, what other papers they had best take. But among so many, and so various, it is hard work for us to judge for others.

But we have wandered from our subject. We want more subscribers from Peoria co. Will not the President, Thomas N. Welles Esq., Mr Stevens, Mr. M. Keon, and other of our friends, see that our prospectus are circulated before other papers are subscribed for? We ought to have *one hundred* subscribers at least from that enterprising agricultural county.

PREMIUMS FOR AG. ESSAYS.—One reason why we wish to see State and Territorial Societies organized in the West, is, that premiums may be offered for the best essays upon different subjects connected with agriculture. Let a handsome premium of a silver cup or medal be offered, for instance, for the best essay upon hemp culture in the West, and it will set the farmers to work thinking and writing about it. So of hedging, breaking prairie, root crops, the keeping of stock &c.

The county societies have not funds sufficient to give any great amount for such premiums, their funds are all required to pay their incidental expenses and their premiums at their annual fairs; and in them commencement it is difficult for many to do even that. Again, we do not think it right for small societies to be required to offer premiums for essays upon subjects, that it is equally for the interest of all parts of the West to have investigated. But by State or Territorial societies offering prizes, the burthen upon individuals will be made light; and there being so many more to provide funds, a prize of consideration will be sufficient to secure valuable essays. The Society might require competitors, unsuccessful ones as well as the successful, to leave their essays for the Society to dispose of as it's pleasure.

Will not the members of the Legislatures of Indiana, Wisconsin and Iowa, take this matter in hand *this session*, and send the prize essays to us for publication? There must be more done by public men to advance the great cause of agricultural improvement among us.

MACDONOUGH CO.—An official society was organized in this county, and we understood the members were about starting an agricultural paper when this was commenced, and most generously concluded to give up theirs and do all they could to sustain this. We have quite a number of subscribers there, but not one of them has had any thing to say of their society. Let us hear from it soon.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Their Doings, &c.

SANGAMON CO. MEETING AND FAIR.—This, we believe, is the third Fair of this Society; and judging from the remarks of the Illinois Former, from which we copy the proceedings, it was much more interesting than any preceding one. It is the oldest society in the State that we know of, and it therefore belongs to it to set a worthy example to the juveniles. Judging from the list of premiums the example has been given.

At the Fair of the Sangomon County Agricultural Society, held pursuant to notice given, at Col. Robert Allen's Farm, on the 13th and 14th inst. premiums were awarded, as follows:

To Messrs, Starr & Carter for the best aged bull.
J. C. Crowder for second best, do
W. P. Renshaw for best two year old do
N. W. Edwards for second best do
R. W. Canfield for best yearling do
David Gibson for second best do
J. C. Crowder for best sucking bull calf.
L. Levering for second best do
J. C. Crowder for best aged cow.
J. N. Brown for second best do
J. C. Crowder for best sucking heifer calf.
J. N. Brown for second best do
J. C. Crowder for the best aged boar.
R. Allen for best boar under 18 months.
A. Hickox for second best do
J. C. Crowder for best boar under 12 months.
C. W. Price for second best do
David Gibson for best boar pig under 6 mos.
M. C. Goltra for second best do
J. C. Crowder for the best aged sow
W. P. Renshaw for second best do
R. Allen for best sow pig under 18 months.
C. S. DeRiemer for second best do
C. W. Price for best sow under 12 months.
J. C. Crowder for second best do
R. Allen for best sow pig under six months.
David Gibson for second best do
J. C. Crowder for best pork hog.
James Bridges for best aged stallion.
William Murray for second best do
L. L. Hill for best two year old filley.
same for second best do
James McCoy for best yearling do
D. D. Forest for best sucking horse colt.
William Prentiss for best aged mare.
L. L. Hill for second best do
same for best two year old filley.
same for second best do
Thomas McDaniel best sucking mare colt.
William Jayne for best gelding.
W. Iles for best two year old Jack.
same for best sucking Jack colt.
Miss Jane Nesbitt for best ten yards jeans.
Mrs. J. E. Brassfield for best pair of socks
Mrs Harrison for best quilt.
Mr. S. F. Jewett for best plough.

I. S. BRITTON, Sec'y.

Springfield, Oct. 14, 1841.

ST. LOUIS CO. (MO.) MEETING AND FAIR.—The first Fair of this Society was held at the race track, (time not given in the Mo. Farmer from which we copy.) The friends of the cause were much encouraged by the spirit manifested. The following premiums were awarded.

T. J. Payne's Stallion, Borodino, by Henry, dam Young Rome, by Duroc, a silver cup, $10

T. J. Payne's brood mam, Highland Mary, sister to Midias and Gora, by American Eclipse, dam by imported Expedition, a silver cup, $10

T. J. Payne's 3 year old filly, dam Highland Mary, a silver cup, $10

T. J. Payne's sucking filly, by Borodino, dam Highland Mary, *no competition*, a silver cup, $8

T. J. Payne's bull calf, a silver cup, $6

T. J. Payne's yearling heifer, Florida, a silver cup, $5

James Russell's sucking horse colt, by Borodino, dam Tom Fletcher, a silver cup, $10

B. W. Alexander's carriage horses, a silver cup, $10

W. P. Hunt's Jack, a silvar cup $10

N. F. Fitch's saddle horse, a silver cup, $10

Lewis Bissell's aged bull, a silver cup, $10

H. M. Shrieve's 2 year old heifer, Virginia, a silver cup. $10

A set of silver teaspoons,

To J. John M'Cormack for best piece of jeans;

To Mm. M'Cormack, for plough;

To H. M. Shrieve, best 10 lbs buttar;

A $3 premium, to J. Jennings, for 4 acres Irish potatoes.

A $5 premium, to P. Gould, for best aged boar, and also for the best aged sow.

The following certificates were awarded to find best stock, &c viz:

R. H. Weightman's Stallion, Duke of Dicans;

H. M. Shrieve's aged bull;

H. M. Shrieve's yearling heifer Duchess of York;

Baojomin Ames sucking bull calf;

T. J. Payne's mule;

T. S. Scragg's bay filly, Merman;

T. J. Payne's bay carriage horses;

James Russell's bay mare, by Tom Fletcher.

W. C. CARR, President.

P. GOULD, Secretary.

AGRICULTURAL MEETING—LA SALLE CO.—At a large and respectable meeting of the citizens of La Salle County held pursuant to public notice for the purpose of organizing a County Agricultural Society.

On motion,

William Seely was called to the chair, and Michael Ryan appointed Secretary.

On motion of Mr. Hardy,

The committee appointed at a previous meeting to draft a constitution were requested to report.

The committee then submitted a constitution for the consideration of the meeting, which was unanimously adopted.

The meeting proceeded to choose the necessary officers for the government of a County Agricultural Society.

The following gentlemen were selected:

President—Isaac Hardy.

Vice Presidents—L. P. Sanger, Gen. M. Dunavan, Henry Leonard, John Palmer, James Clark, Asa Holdridge, S. S. Bullock, C. Abbe

Executive Committee William Stadden, M. L. Holhster, N. M. Letts, S. Crook.

After some discussion by Messrs. Hardy, Hollister, Stadden, and Burnham,

Corresponding Secretary—Elmer Baldwin.

On motion of L. P. Sanger, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That each member of this society be requested to subscribe for the "Union Agriculturist."

On motion it was

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the officers and sent to the papers of this county, and to the Union Agriculturist for publication.

On motion, the meeting adjourned to meet on the first Tuesday of the May term of the Circuit Court, at Ottawa, at nine o'clock A. M.

WM. SEELY, President.

M. RYAN, Sec'y.

PEDIGREES OF STOCK

Belonging to Hon J. N. Brown, of Sangamon co.

Continued from page 84.

SULLS.

No. 1. *Accident*, red, calved July 1st, 1834, by Pioneer, dam Helen Eyre, see No. 1. Pioneer by Exchange, out of Beauty, he by Champion out of a cow by the imported bull San Martin, out of Lady Munday; Champion by Tecumseh out of Lady Munday; Beauty by Mohawk out of Pink, see No 1; Mohawk by San Martin, out of the Tecumseh heifer; she by Tecumseh, out of the imported cow Mrs. Motte.

No 2. *Triumph*, red with roan spots, calved April 6th, 1837, by Frederick, dam Lady McAllister, see No. 2; Frederick, by Triumph; dam Cleopatra on imported cow, by Pilot. (496); dam Fair Maid (340); Triumph by Tecumseh, (1504) dam Dphelia by Malcolm, (1190), gr. dam by Yorkshire bull, (612); g. gr. dam Yorm, &c. see Herd Book for pedigrees.

No. 3. *Wonder* red with some white, calved June 29th, 1838 by Accident, see No. 1; dam Lady McAllister, see No. 2.

No. 4. *Reform*, red and white, calved March 2nd, 1839, by Spy; for the pedigree of Spy, see cows No. 22; dam Helen Eyre, see No. 1, sold to N. W. Edwards Esq. of Springfield, for three hundred dollars

No. 5. *Walk-in-the-water*, red, calved May 2nd, 1838, by Accident; dam Margaret, see No. 6; sold to Col. James N. Bradford, of Sangamon co., Ills.

No. 6. *Pontiac*, red, calved 15th of June 1839, by Acoident, see No. 1; dam Cleopatra, see No 3.

No. 7. *Othello*, red and white, calved Jan. 6, 1840, by Triumph, see No. 2; dam Diiva, see No 3

No 8. *Magnum Bonum*, red and white, calved June 29th, 1840, by Rover, see No. 16; dam Lady McAllister, see No 2

No. 9. *Pilot*, speckled, calved March 1st, 1840, by Triumph, see No. 2; dam Beauty, see No 5.

No. 10 *Cornplanter*, roan, calved June 10th, 1840, by Triumph, see No. 2; dam George-Ann, by Accident, see No. 13.

No. 11. *Osceola*, red and white, calved December 28th 1840, by Santa Anna, see No. 23, dam Dlive, see No. 3.

THE AVERAGE, on DAIRY COW.—Small as Great Britain is, when measured by acres, there are in it a great many breeds of cattle separate and distinct, each having admirers. They are kept thus unmixed. Of these breeds, "take them all in all," the most valuable is the Ayrshire or "dairy cow." Till of late years the excellencies of them cows had not been fully appreciated; but, by the test of experience, they have been found equally fit for fatting and milking, and at the present no beast sells so high in Scotland (its weight and expense or quantity of food necessary to bring it to the point considered) as an Ayrshire heifer rising three years, and with calf.

The Ayrshire is an improvement of the old cows of this district, but by whom or how the historiographers of the breed seem not to know. The county whose name they bear is divided into three districts or baillewicks, of which each had its own particular characteristic:

"Kyle for a man, Carrick for a *cow*, (cow,)
Cunningham for butter and cheese,
To make out the verse—
And Galloway for *woo*, (wool)"

Although in this district Carrick is held to have the best cattle, yet it was in Cunningham, famed for its dairy produce, that the Ayrshire breed first attracted attention, and in the parish of Dunlap in that district, and the Duolap cows soon became as famous as the Dunlap cheese. The county has robbed the parish of the name of the bread; but Dunlap is still unrivalled in its cheese, and the name is given to all made in the same way, wherever it may be made in Scotland.

This breed of cattle, in the estimation of the writer of this, is from the same origin as the Durham, viz. the Dutch; but falling into different hands, and for nearly a century selected and bred for different soils, and for different purposes, they have thus become a different breed. In color they are the same, in head and horns alike; but an admirer of the Durham would turn with a sneer of contempt from the diminutive form of an Ayrshire, its light spare forequarters and its flat ribs not being in unison with his ideas of a perfect cow. An Ayrshire cow is nearly straight on the back, but the best milkers have a slight curvature or hollow line from the back of the head to the shoulder, the same from the shoulder to the loins, then drooping towards the tail. They are broad in the loins, or as the Scotch say, "braid abune the milk," and deep in the some part of the body. Indeed, they may be said to be formed like a wedge, tapering both ways; the udder extending forwards without drooping, and the teats set wide and radiating to the centre.

On the indifferent soils in the west of Scotland, these animals would feed, on an average, to five hundred weight. But a cow of this size would afford as much weight of Dunlap cheese, and as cheese sells higher per pound than beef, as much money is derived in one year from a milking cow as one reared solely for the shambles, produces in its lifetime.

Dairies of from twenty to thirty cows, of from five to six hundred pounds weight, have been known to average three thousand six hundred quarts of milk yearly; and as six quarts makes fully one pound of cheese, more than six hundred pounds would be the produce of a cow, and the whey of each would keep a pig six or eight months. Could cheese be made here of the same quality as Dunlap, it would sell for at least ten cents per pound, or $60 for the produce of a cow.

Until of late years this breed never got fair play as to its feeding qualities. No males were kept but such as were selected for breeding from; and that portion of the stock that was fed consisted of those cows that were yearly turned from the herd. These were, first, the aged cows—and these were not cast off on arriving at a given number of years, as a good milker was kept longer for the two fold reason of present profit and the chance of more of the same stock; and, secondly, it was found that, some young cows, after a year's trial, proved bad milkers, so that putting them to fatten was not losing the feeding qualities of the breed. The one kind was too old, and as for others, a cow that eats like others, and gives little milk, is hard to fat en. The best milking cows are the readiest made fat. The writer of this has fed Ayrshire cows that have been milked for five years, and in four months from their becoming dry has sold them higher per stone than Durham heifers would bring that never had been milked. Dwarg to their small size, they are, when any thing like fat, much sought after by the butchers, as they are more fitted for retail; and it is now also admitted that the beef in flavor and in the mixture and disposition of the fat, is unequalled by that of any other breed.

Except on farms where there is pasture unsuitable for milking cows, no more calves are reared than are necessary to keep up the dairy stock. It is only on farms that have a large proportion of tight pastures that an extra number are raised. These find purchasers in drovers who buy them up for the Lancashire & Cheshire dairies at the age of two or three years.—*Louisville Journal*

THINGS NOT TO BE DONE.—Sowing spring wheat without soaking in brine and rolling in lime, is a thing not to be done. According to C. W. Johnson, salt acts an important part in germination and promoting the growth of plants; and lime, every one is aware, seems to be necessary in some form to the perfection of plants and their seeds. Both, then should be used in sowing wheat.

Attempting to keep cattle, sheep and horses, through our long winters on straw or even hay, without roots, is a thing not to done. Every good farmer, will therefore make his arrangements so as to secure a plentiful supply of turnips, potatoes, or carrots for winter use. These fed with hay will improve the stock, promote health, and bring the animals through the most trying season of the sea with safety and profit.

Making a yard of the highway, and allowing your cattle and sheep to be fed, and drop their dung where it is lost to the farm, is a thing not to be done. This practice, though common, is a wretched one, and should be reformed altogether. Feed your animals in stalls, if you can; if not in yards. To do otherwise, is wasteful in the extreme.

Allowing your cattle in the spring of the year to go roaming about, poaching your meadows and pastures with their feet, is a thing not to be done. The small amount of food they can get in this way is a poor compensation for the damage they do, and besides it destroys their relish for hay, without offering any substitute.

Suffering animals to perish for want of attention, at any season of the year, is a thing not to be done. But if any do die accidentally, they should be converted to use by being covered with earth, to absorb the gases of oxygen and ammonia that are the inevitable results of animal putrefaction, and which are indispensable to the growth of plants.

Having your pig stye in such a state, or place, that your pigs shall not work for a living is a thing not to be done. They should have a yard into which weeds, swamp muck, straw, and the scrapings of roads and ditches should be thrown to be converted into manure; and if they seem at any time reluctant to begin the task of mixing such materials, a few handfuls of corn scattered over the surface will set them to work most industriously.

Permitting the chips, pieces of bark, sawdust &c., of your wood yard to accumulate for years is a thing not to be done. Remember that all, which has once formed part of a plant can be converted into a plant again, and place all such matters where their decomposition will be most useful, and soonest affected.

Nearly every farm has some pond, marsh, or bog which receive a large portion of the wash of the cultivated land; and to allow this to remain without being returned to the soil, is a thing not to be done. There are some such places that may be considered as inexhaustible deposits of fertilizing matter, yet have never been drawn upon for a single load, by the neighboring farmers. Let those who have such deposits look to them.

Allowing your work to drive you; is a thing not to be done. The man who is half an hour behind his work, finds his labor forever an uphill business. There is here a serious mistake committed by many farmers. They lay out more work than they can do well, or in season, and the consequence is, nothing is done at the time, or as it should be. What you do, do in season, and be sure to do well.

Being content to allow a single year to pass without correcting some error, or making some improvement in husbandry, is a thing not to be done. In conversation with an intelligent farmer the other day, he remarked that the practice of all fell behind their knowledge, or in other words, none did as well as they knew how. To put the knowledge we acquire from our own or other's experience to use, should be the aim of every one, and would soon wipe away the reproach that farmers are a stationery race of men.—*Alb. Cult.*

PREPARATION OF FOOD FOR HOGS.—Grain is worth far more, as food for animals, ground than unground. Cooking food, also adds greatly to its value. Some have estimated cooked meal at fifty per cent. more in value than the uncooked. There can be no doubt that grinding and cooking grain will make an improvement, far exceeding in value the cost of these operations. They will probably add nearly 100 to the value of the food.

It is well to have a mixture of food for hogs; it is less cloying and induces more thrift. Roots of various kinds, with apples and meal, make an excellent and cheap food. Pumpkins may be added, or pumpkins and apples may be used, if no roots are at hand; sweet pumpkins and sour apples with meal, form a very palatable and nourishing dish.

All these kinds of food, excepting meal, and that may be used sparingly, are very cheap, and yield a large amount to the acre. Apples are produced with little labor, after the trees once attain a good size. They are probably the cheapest food that can be produced in New England or the middle states. And even in the West, where grain is raised with little expense, apples may be produced with little expense also.—*Farmers Journal.*

EVERY MAN A SEC. OF THE TREASURY.—We are all very anxious, Mr. Editor, to secure a good Secretary of the Treasury for the National Government, and look upon the financial department as one of the most extreme importance. In a Secretary we seek an individual who will, in the best manner, by hook or by crook, provide the means to meet the necessary expenses of the government. Suppose our country politicians who are, no doubt, as much devoted to their hobby as my uncle Toby was to his, should seek to indulge their favorite propensities in a similar manner—let each of them erect his own farm into a model government, and let him dub himself *Secretary of the Treasury*. Let him remember that ways and means to carry on his government must be provided, and that his character as a politician is at stake to see that they are not wanting. Here is an opportunity afforded every individual to conduct a government on exactly his own principles, and to prove to his unbelieving neighbors that his system is the best that can possibly be devised. The man that the people reject may, by this means, prove to them what a genius they have lost, whilst the country is sure to be benefited by his operations, which cannot always be predicated of those who play the part of *public* politicians.

But jesting aside, Mr. Editor, I do consider this universal devotion to politics the besetting sin of the country. If the genius that is annually wasted in empty political brawlings was only devoted to the advancement of agriculture, if the general excitement, which is felt upon this subject was turned upon one much more worthy of it, how greatly would the wealth and happiness of the country be increased.

I do not mean to say that a man should be ignorant of, or indifferent to, great political questions, but I do mean to assert, that many hours are bestowed upon heated and fruitless discussions that might be much more profitably employed. What a glorious day it will be for Virginia when her sons, who have ever been distinguished for their sagacity and wisdom, can be induced to permit *agriculture* to share at least with *politics* in their consideration. The same zeal, the same depth of thought, and the same indomitable spirit which have caused her to rank first in politics, would place her also in the front rank in agriculture. And, sir, the day, thank God, is coming, when this consummation, so devoutly to be wished for, will be attained. At this moment, the road to ambition lies through the fields of agriculture. Such is now the spirit abroad for this noble pursuit, that he who distinguishes himself in it, will be greeted with the applause of his admiring countrymen, and the time will shortly come, when the individual most distinguished for his knowledge of agriculture, will command a position superior to him, who has attained the highest pinnacle of political fortune.—*Southern Planter.*

WARM DRINKS FOR COWS.—Those persons who wish their cows to give large messes of milk in the winter season, should give them warm drink. A small kettle full of hot water will warm a sufficient quantity of cold, to supply a cow, and the trouble will be more than re-paid in the increased quantity of milk.—*Bangor Courier.*

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